JAPANESE MYTHOLOGY & FOLKLORE

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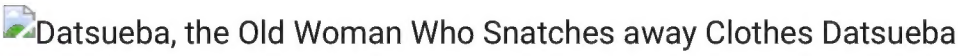
Discovering the universality of Baba yaga and Yama-uba, the old mountain crone


Datsueba, the Old Woman Who Snatches away Clothes Datsueba

Japanese, Edo period, 1845 Kikuchi Yôsai, Japanese, 1788–1878 (Boston Museum of Fine Arts)

I was reading a fascinating account about the possible origin of *Baba yagas* by Sergei V. Rjabchikov from his "The Scythian and Sarmatian Sources of the Russian Mythology and Fairy-Tales" when I began to think of all the similarities between the Russian "crone" and the Japanese mountain crone or hell's hag (Shozuka- /Sanzu- /Jikoku-no baba). As I began to investigate further the Russian *baba yaga*, I discovered that many East European or Slavic countries and Central Asian peoples also possess uncannily similar folkloric versions of stories of the old hag or crone. That there should be such larger-than-life folkloric character-sharing with so many similar features existing across so many cultures, says to me that the universal old crone legend must have had great significance to have survived over at least thousand years, and to have been passed on through the generations and across so many empires' borders. It also indicates a large swathe or huge spheres of cultural interaction where the Baba yaga/Hell's Hag stories could have been passed on in a "Chinese whispers" sort of way, as a result of either cultural or demic diffusion…yet without losing much of the essence or spirit of the Baba yaga character. To begin with, we go through Rjabchikov's version, excerpted below and key elements bolded:

From **an ancient crypt in Crimea, Ukraine** comes images of…

"…**a fiery horse, a hut standing on four chicken legs** (as in Russian fairy tales!) and a **woman (goddess) with the fiery hair**. A **child is seen in this fairytale hut**. These data correspond to the Russian fairy-tales about Baba-Yaga (the old woman Yaga).

I think that the personage Baba-Yaga corresponds to the Scythian goddess Tabiti. I have counted **ten rays** at her head in this figure. The face of a goddess is represented on a Scythian brooch discovered in the Belyaus burial ground, the Crimea, Ukraine (Dashevskaya 1991: 121, table 65, figure 10). It is a designation of Tabiti whose head is decorated with nine or ten rays. As has been shown earlier (Rjabchikov 2001a), Baba-Yaga (cf. Old Indian yaga 'sacrifice') is **closely related to the fire god Agni. Actually, this god plays the main role in sacrifices according to the Indo-Arian mythology** (Neveleva 1975: 85).

Let us examine some features of Baba-Yaga. V.Y. Propp (1998: 147) stresses her **roles of a donor, an abductor, a female warrior**. The last function is in my opinion a hint at the Amazons, otherwise the Sarmatian women. In Baba-Yaga's hut the initiations are performed (Propp 1998: 157). She denotes the fertility without the participation of men (Propp 1998: 168); she directs winds; she keeps keys from the sun (Propp 1998: 169). As an ancestress she is **connected with the hearth** (Propp 1998: 171). She gives her horse (Kobylitsa-Zolotitsa 'The Golden Mare') to a hero (Propp 1998: 172). Some epithets of **the horse** which is equal to the god Agni are "with a golden mane", "having a light-coloured back", "with a fiery head" in the Indo-Arian beliefs (Propp 1998: 264). The **main attributes of Baba-Yaga are the fire and the horse** (Propp 1998: 190, 197). Besides, she is preparing a youth for a marriage; she is **burning or boiling children** (Propp 1998: 198, 200).

Baba-Yaga's hut stand on chicken legs? First of all, Old Indian kukkuta means '**cock; hen; fire-brand; spark of fire**'. So such legs may correlate with the cult of the fire…

> Baba-Yaga knows the future and betokens (Afanasiev 1996: 57). And now one can examine an information about the Scythian goddess Tabiti mentioned in the History of Herodotus (Book IV): she compares with Hestia, the Greek goddess of hearth and home who is a virgin and the eldest sister of the god Zeus (1). All these features fit the features of Baba-Yaga (hearth; initiations; without a husband; connected with winds). The edges of roofs in the ancient town Panticapeum, the capital of the Bosporan kingdom (modern Kerch, the Crimea, Ukraine), were decorated with masks of a goddess (Blavatsky 1953: 173, figure 7). Since her hair is shaped like tongues of flame or rays of the sun, this is Tabiti, the goddess of hearth and home. It is well to bear in mind that D.S. Raevsky (1994: 204-5) points to the similarity of Tabiti (Tapayati 'Heating; Flaming') to Agni. In a Scythian inscription I read the words Tabera vese 'Knowing Tabiti' (Rjabchikov 2001a). The names Tab-iti and Tab-era (cf. the Russian suffix ar) 'Heating; Flaming' are the variants. One can suppose that the Scythians translated the name Tabiti as Ta biti 'Beating' (Trubachev 1981: 23), too. The beating Baba-Yaga is also known (Propp 1998: 180-1).
>
> The goddess Tabiti is depicted on a gold badge discovered in the Chertomlyk barrow, Ukraine; it was dated to 4th c. B.C."
>
> — End of excerpt…

One wonders how much of a connection Baba-Yaga has with the Japanese myths and folktales of the *Sanzu no Baba* 三途の婆= *Shōzuka no Baba=Jigoku no Baba* 地獄の婆=*Datsueba* who are varying folk versions of a hideous creature or "hell's hag". *Shozuka-no-Baba* or Datsueba who strips children of their clothes on the Sanzu river banks of the Buddhist Underworld (or in other folkloric versions – Sainokawara, the Japanese River Styx), and then encourages them to make piles of stones to build a stairway to paradise. The afflicted children are then consoled and saved by the very popular Jizo Bodhisattva, (alternatively, Ksitigarbha) who hides them in the wide sleeves of his robe.

In the Japanese context, the *Jikoku no Baba* lit. "Hell's Hag" or Datsueba, "Old Hag of Hell" is obviously related to death or funerary customary practices because it occurs in the context of the Sainokawara which is the Riverbed of Souls in Purgatory or sometimes interpreted as the Limbo for Children) with Jizo guiding dead souls safely in the crossing of the River Sanzu (Sanzu No Kawa 三途の川, River of Three Roads, River of Three Crossings. River Sanzu would ring a bell for most, with echoes of River Styx and an Orpheus-like Underworld.

Overall, there are enough common elements between the Japanese hag and the Slavic/Uralic Permyak/Sami/Mansi)/Scythian/Siberian ones to suggest a (lost or forgotten?) funerary

Underworld context as well to make us ponder the possibility of a universal “Baba yaga” and the probable route of diffusion to the “Baba yaga” countries:

- Baba-yaga is a hag, crone or witchlike person or seer/fortune-teller (Romani gypsies) In Tibet, the *Yagas* are thought to be either Bon Po demon-and-fire-worshippers or the fierce demons themselves: Grandmother Demon, Grandmother Dragon. The Hungarian bábák meant “old woman”, originally a good fairy with magical abilities who in later eras was regarded as having become degraded and became evil. She was thought to live in fountains, and if young children went too close to her lair, she lured them in. She was also thought in mythology to have possessed a táltos shamanic function and able to fly between the Upper/Middle/Underworlds on the back of a horse, so one of the theories about the ancient Hungarian religion is that it was a form of Tengriism, a shamanistic religion common among the early Turkic, Uralic and Mongol people, that was influenced by Zoroastrianism when the Magyars (perhaps the Arpad-Attila the Hun lineage) encountered the Persians during their westward migration.
- Baba yaga tortures or kidnaps small children, sometimes grilling or boiling them! (although the Greek Persephone as daughter of Demeter (Mother Earth) is the one being abducted by Hades to become his Queen of the Underworld). Alternatively, Baba yaga is sometimes the force behind urging children to behave …as well as delivering what goes around comes around to unsavory stepmothers.
- Baba yaga is often described as tending the fire / water /or gathering herbs or rearing the animals … in such a role, she is akin to an underworld goddess who rules over the forces of life, death and fertility. See Grandmother Gaia: Baba Yaga stories) Sumerian BAÚ was believed to be the goddess of bounty, a healer, and a provider of harvest and food, giver of birth and fertility and often called Mother BABA, and the life giver (midwife) who helps bring life into the world, while her Hungarian counterpart was Boldog Asszony, goddess of birth, fertility and harvests. Dumuzi, god of the Underworld was a vegetation god as well as a harvest god of ancient Mesopotamia, — he was the son-husband of the goddess Gula-BAU. [Note: Hungarian-Sumerian-Russian fertility-birth-Earth’s womb-Underworld-mother goddesses … all are called Baba, along with the Ob people’s Zlata Baba, the Golden Woman or more properly, the Lumiinous and Radiant Dame, but there is also the Khanty’s goddess Kaltash-ekva, the deity the birth-giving goddess who dispatches the souls of the children to be born, also the goddess of dawn, wife of the sky god and who keeps account of the length of people’s lives. Japanese Demon Lore suggests that the Jigoku no baba / datsueba and yama-uba (Mountain Hag) reveal the dichotonous nature of the goddess of birth and death. The earliest attested form of Demeter’s name in Mycenean Greek is

Da-ma-te, Da meaning “earth” and the second element of her name meter (μήτηρ) derived from Proto-Indo-European *méh$_2$tēr (mother). So Demeter is “Mother-Earth”.

- In some legends Baba Yaga is also awarded the title Костяная Нога (“The Bone Leg”) and considered a guardian between the real world and the land of the dead. She is known on rare occasions to offer guidance to lost souls. Hecate, the Greek triple goddess plays such a role and becomes attendant to Persephone and guide of in the Underworld. Hecate is thought to have originated in the Hekat of the Carians of Anatolia, where ((like the Japanese Jizo) she has a succouring role of savior and variants of her name are found to be names given to children, although classical Athens traditions associate her with witchcraft and refer to her in the Goddess’s aspect of the “Crone”.
- A chicken motif (suggesting the ancient votive offering/cock symbolism in funerals) – the cock is seen on a boat heading towards the sun (solar deity) in many Underworld myths or iconographies. Ceramic cockerel or chicken haniwa are the most numerous type of bird tumuli terracotta artefact, followed by waterfowl, found during the Tumuli Kofun Period in Japan. The Persian Avestan (Indo-Iranian) Sraosa, attendant to the Sun god, guides the souls of the deceased to find their way to the afterlife. His symbolic animal is the cock, whose crowing calls the pious to their religious duties. (Sraosa, killer of demons, is opposed by archdemon Aesma Daeva together with other Underworld female demons). A hen and cock (along with two horses) were sacrificed as part of the Norse funeral rituals, presided over by an old woman referred to as the “Angel of Death” who was responsible for the mortuary rituals. Cock symbolism and terracotta were also used by the Romans. The Russian/Slavic interpretation of cock and hen usage however, is that it relates to the use of magic and for al healing spells (p. 166).
- Baba yaga’s hut is surrounded by a palisade with a skull on each pole, or both. The fence with a skull on pole (overtly a mortuary and/or sacrificial ritual function) or the fence outside is made with human bones with skulls on top, often with one pole lacking its skull, leaving space for the hero or heroes.
- The hut (funerary context -perhaps interim holding hut see Khanty burial house) connected with horse (Scythian and Siberian afterlife horse (and chariot) riding towards the sun cosmogony motif) In “some tales, the hut is connected with three riders: one in white, riding a white horse with a white harness, who is Day; a red rider, who is the Sun; and one in black, who is Night” (see Baba-yaga). Baba Yaga, hints of the old horse-Goddess cults predating classical Greek culture (see Hag of a Muse)
- The element of animal or human sacrifice – horses, cocks, and also cows or sheep or human sacrifices were made but the horse was symbolic of a mount for the deceased and the cock, a solar guide through the Underworld towards Dawn/sun (a remote memory perhaps alluded to by

the burning and grilling of bones. Ritual child sacrifice and urn burial, the most famous examples of which are those held at Tophet, by Canaanites and Carthaginians and the practices of the ancient Near East. The Tibetans' pre-Buddhist mortuary rituals included a sacrificial requirement of a holy triad of horse-sheep-yak — the sheep as guide to make their way across clips and rivers; and the yak to confound or combat the demons. Sometimes, a human "ransome" sacrifice was donee.

- In the Russian tales, Baba yaga lives in a log cabin that either stands on or moves around on a pair of dancing chicken legs. The Sami have a storehouse that looks exactly like it with the "chicken feet" (see photo below). In Slavic traditions, there is also a death hut (see sketch below).
- Siberians, Ob-Ugrians hold figurines of their gods in such huts or doll-like effigies in rags in a small cabin on top of a tree stump that fits a common description of "Baba Yaga, who barely fits her cabin: her legs lie in one corner, her head in another one, and her nose is grown into the ceiling". However, the doll is said to be a repository for fourth and renascent, reincarnating soul of the deceased(see Edgar Saar) and is not representative of a deity nor of Baba Yaga as such. The Golden or Radiant Lady of the Dawn called Zolota Baba or Slata Baba, is whom the Ob-Ugrians (Khant-Mansi) revere the most, and pray to and consult for all things. The title Golden or Radiant Lady of the Dawn recalls the solar nature (cock calling at dawn or guiding the boat of the dead towards the sun), a character that has strong parallels with Amaterasu sun goddess of Japan emerging out of the Cave.

Left: Sketch by Nicholas Roerich, Izba smerti of the Hut of Death, 1905, an artistic expression of burial traditions of the ancient Slavs

Right: Sami storehouse, Stockholm, Sweden

Above: Shogoso of the Shosoin, Nara

Below: Storehouse of the Khanty-Mansi (Ob-Ugrians)

The Russian and East Slavic folkloric Baba yagas seem to be characters who have become detached or removed from the original funerary-Underworld contexts, though that mortuary context is still secure in the Finno-Ugric/Norse/Japanese contexts (except for the Japanese Yama-uba mountain crone variant). The Baba yaga in the Russian/Slavic cultures have become "forest demons" or "forest spirits", writes Andreas Johns in "Baba Yaga: The Ambiguous Mother and Witch of the Russian Folktale"(p. 162). But even in the East European context, Baba yaga's funerary role re-surfaces again as Sergei Rjachikov in his article uncovered the Baba yaga figure in the ancient Ukrainian crypt, although Rjachikov's purpose and focus was to try to establish an Indo-European origin for Baba yaga.

While the Japanese figure of Shozuka-/Sanzu-/Jigoku- no-Baba appears closest perhaps to the Khanty-Mansi Radiant Dawn-Zolota Baba figure especially because of the riverbank and cairns setting.

Other Japanese tomb iconography of the Yayoi and Kofun tombs show boats with a cock at the helm journeying towards the sun….pointing to either Persian influence point to either Persian or Vedic Indian influence via the imagery of Sraosa as a guide in the Underworld with cock towards the Sun Ahura Mazda or the Indo-European equivalent seen in India's Indra, a.k.a. Sakra (lord of heaven, war and thunderstorms), who pushes up the sky and by smashing of the Vala stone cave or alternatively cow enclosure, he releases Ushas, the most exalted Dawn goddess (parallels in Zolota Baba and especially in the Amaterasu myth). Twenty of the 1028 hymns of Rig Veda are dedicated

to Ushas whose role of warding off evil spirits of the night, and as a beautifully adorned young woman rides in a golden chariot on her path across the sky. Indra is also described as golden-bodied and having a function as one of the guardians of the directions – of East, and deceased warriors go to his hall after death, where they live without sadness, pain or fear. There is also a Near Eastern connection since the name of Indra (Indara) is also mentioned among the gods of the Mitanni, a Hurrian speaking people who ruled northern Syria from ca.1500BC-1300BC (source: Indra).

The solar aspect of cock symbolism is however, is given fullest treatment in the Legend of Archer Yi shared by East Asians – the Miao, Yi and Korean peoples:

> "The sun rises and sets at fixed times; you do not yet know the laws of day and night; it is absolutely necessary for you to take with you the bird with the golden plumage, which will sing to advise you of the exact times of the rising, culmination, and setting of the sun." "Where is this bird to be found?" asked Shên I. "It is a three-footed bird, which perches on the Fu-sang_ tree [a tree said to grow at the place where the sun rises] in the middle of the Eastern Sea. This tree is several thousands of feet in height and of gigantic girth. The bird of golden plumage had a sonorous voice and majestic bearing. It lays eggs which hatch out nestlings with red combs, who answer him every morning when he starts crowing. He is usually called the cock of heaven, and the cocks down here which crow morning and evening are descendants of the celestial cock. This bird keeps near the source of the dawn, and when it sees the sun taking his morning bath gives vent to a cry that shakes the heavens and wakes up all humanity. Go and fetch it and take it to the Palace of the Sun" [think of Indra's Hall]

Fred Hamori in "The goddess of birth and fertility" relying on the work of Dr Ida Bobula, "A Magyar ösvallás istenasszonya" goes to great lengths to establish the very ancient Mother Goddess BAU, the Sumerian/Mesopotamian goddess of birth and fertility as the pre-cursor or proto-type for the Hungarian, Bulgar, Finno-Ugric, Turkic and Mongol-Hun mother- harvest-cum-Womb-of-the-World type goddesses.

So far, the solar goddess, the fertility goddess and regenerative earth goddess have been hinted at. But the Russian Baba yaga and Japanese Jigoku baba are darker creatures … crones, hags or "demon"-like creatures, like the Iranian, Indian and Tibetan images, which suggests to me there was a transformation of the Old Woman images– they became more and more demon-daeva-like moving Eastwards across Eurasia. The witch-like images may have been a transformation following Christianity's move to stamp out paganism.

The concept of the Old Woman Stone or Ubaishi comes to mind here. In "Immortal wishes: labor and transcendence on a Japanese sacred mountain, Ellen Schattschneider writes of that the "important destination of shugyo (ascetic discipline) on Akkaura mountain is the sacred rock of Ubaishi (Old Woman Stone) high on the left ridge above Akakura gorge. Ascetics are expected to crawl through a tunnel under the boulder six times, a process that recalls birth as well as passage throught he six realms of creation (rokudo) and which has associations with an important episode in the Kojiki .., in which the sun goddess Amaterasu emerges from a cave". Amaterasu could be interpreted as "Ama"="Mother" although current interpretations have it as meaning `Sky' or `Heaven' and "terasu" according to consensus views means "to shine" or "shining", but "terasu" actually sounds like an close phonetic sounding out of "Th-ra-ce", so my conjecture would be that Ama-terasu could actually mean "Mother of Thrace". In other words, a 'Mountain Mother' that came out of Thrace's sacred mountains and caves.

In Mountain goddesses in Ancient Thrace: The Broader Context Nikola Theodossiev argues a good case for an origin of the `Mountain Mother' in Thrace's mountain cult sanctuaries for many of the Greek and Phrygian (Asia Minor) gods, "Mountain Mothers" including Cybele, Zerynthia (aka Hecate/Rhea), Tereia, Gaia, Rheskynthion, Dindyma, Ganea/Ganos and the male gods too: Saon/Saoke/Saos, Apollo, Orpheus, Zalmoxis (a.k.a Zeus).

According to Theodossiev, this borrowing of Thracian 'Mountain Mothers' was widespread in Greece and Asia Minor, and the process by which how this could have happened is explained thus:

> In the context of all these written sources is the great number of Thracian sanctuaries located in mountains and rocky highlands that clearly show the sacred nature of the places. Also, it is possible that the numerous tumuli of ancient Thrace might symbolize sacred mountains and if so how these burial constructions could be related to some cults of mountain goddesses besides their funerary functions. … A similar syncretic process could be traced back in the literary works of the late 5th century BC … In fact the literary image of Rhea as `Mountain Mother' was probably created in the interaction zones of Asia Minor, where the idea had been borrowed from the non-Greek people. The literary image of the 'Mountain Mother' survived well into the Roman Imperial Period.
>
> On late Hellenistic silver bowl [supposed to have come from Asia Minor or Thrace] … a brief inscription is incised … in translation "Koteus [son/servant of `Mountain Mother' … In both cases this inscription is remarkable evidence for religious ideas and cults related to the mountain appearance of the goddess.

Although Thrace is a long way away from Japan, Thracian ideas obviously had great impact in the Hellenistic and Asia Minor scheme of things, and its influence was undoubtedly also spreading eastwards throughout the Greek-Bactrian-Margiana-Ferghana sphere of interaction into Southwest China and Northern China via trade or nomadic expansions along the Silk Road terminating at the Japanese archipelago. We could conceive this was how not only the Baba yaga or the Mountain Crone character, but also the mother and mountain goddess-Sacred Cave concept came to be so widely implanted across Eurasia.

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larissafradkin on November 28, 2013 at 10:53 am

In 1928 Professor Popp wrote a brilliant book on connection between Russian fairy tales and initiation rituals. He offered many insights which I have no time to list but you might be interested in. See http://www.lib.ru/CULTURE/PROPP/skazki.txt

Reply

heritageofjapan on November 28, 2013 at 4:35 pm

Is there an English translation do you know?

Reply

larissafradkin on November 28, 2013 at 10:59 am

By the way, he (and many other Russian scholars) indicated that the image of “chicken legs” might be due to a mistranslation. The original phrase might have referred to stumps under a funeral hut.

Reply

heritageofjapan on November 28, 2013 at 4:35 pm

Possibly the scholars are correct (if so, certain depictions and illustrations of the huts would also be false?) but in any case, the funerary connection is established, the cult rituals of hanging dead animal sacrifices and chickens on the fences or poles, of impaling skull bones, suggest the distinct connection and make it likely that imagery

existed somewhere in the past. At the Ise shrine, the cocks roam everywhere around the shrines that are a grander version of these huts. The architecture of the funerary log-huts (or which may have doubled up symbolic functions as granary/weapon storehouses in some cases) also appears to have been prevalent among a number of cultures cross the Caucasus, Altai, to Japan.

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    Notes: Evidence for Arctic Siberian migrations (bear worshipping people) to Greenland
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A. Index to Japanese myths
About Japanese superstitions
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Ainu creation myth of deity's descent on five-colored clouds
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Ainu golden horse and horse shape-shifter tales
Ainu hare-ry legends
Ainu legend of the demiurge, cosmic creation and first human couple
Ainu legend of the trout that founded the world
Ainu legend: Flying Squirrel – the 'divine prolific one' will help the woman bear many fine children
Ainu legend: How it came to be that certain Ainu were descended from a brown bear, the deity who possesses the mountains
Ainu legend: Salmon — the divine fish that came down from Paradise

Why the Ainu offer sake to the Divine Fish, the Chief of the Salmon
Ainu Legend: The ceremony of Mistress Swan
Ainu legend: The otter is why mankind is imperfect today
Ama women divers – the probable origin of mermaid tales
Amanohashidate — a vision of a concrete Heaven's Floating Bridge on earth
Amaterasu rites: Arousing or calling back the Spirit of the Regenerating Solar-Earth Mother, Rice Mother, or Rice Daughter?
Amenokoyane and Koya-san
Amida's descent and celestial beings and the use of clouds as an artistic convention
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Lucky evil-repelling arrows of Tsurugaoka Hachimangu shrine
Ashinazuchi in legend and genealogy
Asotsu-hiko no mikoto (and Aso family) was descended from Kamu-ya-i-mimi no mikoto, son of Emperor Jimmu
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Discovering the universality of Baba yaga and Yama-uba, the old mountain crone
Door guardian deities
Dragon Boat Race Festivals of Naha and Itoman, and elsewhere in Japan, their history and their cultural significance
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Ebisu, the visiting deity of fishing and good fortune
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Eggs as the Symbol of Creation
Ekijin petrel guardians against bad luck and the birthplace of setsubun: Yoshida Shrine, Kyoto
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Enryakuji/Ishiyamadera: Walking in the enlightened footsteps of Mt. Hieizan monks
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Gyoran Kannon — the "fish basket bodhisattva"
Halloween in Japan
Handbook of Chinese mythology – origin of flood myths, Nuwa legends and brother and sister primordial pair
Hanging eggs, Cosmic Egg myths and excavated ostrich eggs across Near East, Old Europe and Eurasia
Notes: Javanese tale of Saka hero and origins of first humans from naga serpent eggs

Hanna Matsuri, Queen Maya and the bathing of the Buddha on his birthday
Hari-kuyo: RIP my faithful pins & needles
Hatsu Uma Festival commemorates the day that Inari, the grain deity descended upon Mt Inari
Heavenly horses and horse figurine art traditions of Eurasia
Hina Matsuri / Doll Festival / Girl's Day / March 3rd
Hindu Kush: Prototype Vedic/Tibetan deities and Kunlun's mountain fairy and apsara legends of the ancient Kalash people?
The Hindu Kush is a melting pot of ancient cultures, a confluence of geneflows, with substantial geneflows from Eastern Eurasia and East Asia
Hindu myth: The hare in the moon was drawn by Sakka
Hokkaido Ainu legend of the Horkew Kamuy, the white wolf god
Hoori (Hohodemi) vs. Hoderi(Hohoderi) – the quarreling brothers motif
The curious crocodile "wani" connection between the Watasumi sea god and Hooderi and Hoori brothers royal myth
Horned demons of Europe
Horse and Griffin iconography of the Saka-Scythians in Altai-Mongolia
Horse legends and Bato-Kannon of Chiba Prefecture
Horse Lucky Charms
How astrology and superstition drove an increase in abortions in Japan
How Mt Fuji got its snow – a legend of Asama jinja
How to Read The Legends of Tono – A century after its publication
In Search of Japan's Hidden Christians....
In search of the Roman Mithra in Miroku and Maitreya
In the news: "Celtic"mummies may be the clue as to how European celtic culture and mythical elements crept into East Asian culture
In the news: Pluto's 'Gate to Hell' Uncovered in Turkey
Indo-European tongues traced back more than 8,000 years to present-day Turkey
Is Kunlun the same as the kingdom of Kalinga (aka Klinig, today's Orissa)?
Ishigami-san, deity of the Ama diver women, and of the local Ise people
Isora the sea deity and ancestor of the Azumi clan
JAPAN HERITAGE Shikoku: 88 stops on the road to celestial joy
Kagamijishi – possession of spirit masks, the lion dance spirit and lion guardians
Kam, Kami, Kamuy – proposed etymology
Kame-iwa or Kame-ishi Turtle Rocks and Turtles that Hold Up the World
Kami Seoritsu hime (deity of waterfalls and rapids) and Hayasasura hime no Kami (deity of the sea), who bear away all sin=illness, mishaps and disasters in ablution rituals
Kamigamo Sanyare-sai Festival – coming-of-age ceremony for boys
Kan'namesai – a harvest festival rite at the Ise Shrines celebrating the imperial lineage's divine ancestry by offering first fruits to Amaterasu Ōmikami
Kano Tanyu's long-lost Momoyama-period painting of an "Eight-tailed Fox" finally recovered and displayed
Kappa: On the hunt for Tono's mythical water trolls
Kashima's ancient rock of faith
King Yama Lord of the Dead: Comparing counterparts and cognates in Central Asia and Southeast Asia
Kinryu-no-mai: Golden dragon dance of Sensoji temple
Kintaro, the Japanese Hercules

Kite talismans for fire prevention
Koropokkurru – Ainu folklore of the little people
Kotei- and maso- gyoretsu: parade of the emperor/goddess
Kubaba – the prototype of the Asian Underworld goddess
Kumano's Indian gods and tales, and the Japanized view of the Other World(s)
Kurohime – Tale of a "black princess" and a black dragon
Kyoto's Mt. Potola, and the poor and vagrant's entrance to the six realms of hell at Fudarakusan
Legend of Oyama: Oyama-dera founder was baby carried away by eagle to Nara
Legend of the Seven-Tailed Serpent
Legendary tale of cat's loyalty to samurai master at Tenjuin Temple
Legends of Sacred White Stag: Emperor Hanwudi vs Takemimikazuchi-no-Mikoto, Fujiwara ancestor descent upon Mt Mikasa
Magical creatures of Okinawa
Marebito
Mato-i, divination by archery
Matsuage torch ritual offerings to the deity of fire of Mt Atago
Megijima (Onigashima) and Momotaro
Miare shinji, Mikage matsuri – Hollyhock festival of the Kamo Shrines
Mice-repelling shrine: Obara jinja
Momotaro, a legend about a folk hero who defeated a prince of Kudara
Momotaro, the Peach Boy
Monju-Manjushri's teaching of the Lotus Sutra and conversion of the Dragon King's daughter, and the inhabitants of the Dragon King's Palace
Mount Meru and Mandala Geography
Mount Takao Hiwatari Matsuri Festival
Mt Haruna's rain deity, Ho-musubi, and the Legend of the Giant Daidarabotchi
Myoken of Hoshida jinja: Significance of Polaris and Big Dipper
Myoren and the stories of flying rice bowls and granaries
Mystery Religions and fertility cults arrived from the west via the Indian-Bengal corridor, spreading through Tibet and Southwest China, Southeast Asia and Japan
Mystery: A dol hareubang spotted in Japan's Kosenji Temple in Kusatsu Onsen resort town (Gunma Prefecture)
Mythology of the tiger peoples
Namahage – where to go to see men in devil masks
Nara – etymology
Nara clan of the Mongols and Jurchens
Natadera (formerly Iwayadera) temple and Taicho's vision of Bodaraku mountain in the Pure Land of Kannon
NATURE IN SHORT / Foxes play spiritual, shape-shifting roles in Japanese society
Nature in Short / Yokai tales: The spirit of the Japanese wolf
Ne-no-kuni – the Netherworld (the concept and etymology)
Nekomata, cat myths and cat shrines of Japan
Night train to Shimane's land of gods
Nigihayahi no Mikoto's Heavenly Rock Ship
Nihonji temple, the oldest Buddhist temple in Kanto, with the largest Daibutsu in Japan

Nimenseki: Stone With Two Faces of Good & Evil
Nirai-kana paradise of the Southern Seas
Nirai-Kanai – the Other Realm
Nirai-kanai: The Okinawan belief of paradise and a god of Niraikanai
Noro, the virgin fire custodian and the legend of ancestral fire from the Dragon's Palace
Note: Fathoming the extent of early Sino-Indian relations, and the Shendu (Sindhu) influence upon Chinese civilization
Notes & Bibliography
Notes and readings on the Japanese hare in the moon and the Easter Bunny
Notes and resources on Syriac Christianity and Nestorian Christians in Central and East Asia
Notes and resources: Tracing the roots and affinities of the Indo-Saka lineages of the early Japanese ...to the Saka, Ashina, Khazarians and Ashkenazims
Notes and source readings on when and how the Jews arrived in China
Notes by Gerald Massey on the twins-motif in mythology, astronomy and royal genealogies
Notes on Bronze Age Eurasia: the Kura-Araxes Early Transcaucasian 'Culture' and the sudden emergence of the Maikop Culture
Notes on Buddhism context: Ninth century AD antiquities found by archaeologists in Jharkhand (The Hindu Business Line)
Notes on Celtic bird symbolism
Notes on Chinese tomb horse sacrifices and chariot burials
Notes on early trident symbolism: Poseidon and his trident
Notes on etymology: AUR, OUR, OR, HORA....HORAI, HORAE
Notes on fire festivals around Japan and fire symbolism in Japan
Notes on heavenly princely titles: "Ame-no" and others
Notes on Iranian influences: Achaemenid kingship and governance style
Notes on legends about twins, twin cults and the Gemini
Notes on lotus sutra legend: Hogon and Renzo and the Lotus Sutra in Mahayana Buddhism
Notes on Mahan ("mahthan") and Rajput clan history
Notes on Mithraic legends, sanctuaries and influences in Dacian-Bulgaria and elsewhere
Notes on Ouroboros Serpent symbolism, and the Serpent Caduceus
Notes on proto-Elamite, Elamite, Dravidian civilization and Susa
Notes on related cultures: Xia-Erlitou culture
Notes on the Mighty Hunter: Nimrod, Nebrod-Nebros, Alorus, Belorus, Orion
Notes on the Picts and Pictish society
Notes on the Zig Zag and triangle motifs of the Austronesians and of the Indo-Europeans
Notes on Womb of life Cave Myths
Notes on: THE PLEIADES AS OPENINGS, THE MILKY WAY AS THE PATH OF BIRDS, AND THE GIRL ON THE MOON: CULTURAL LINKS ACROSS NORTHERN EURASIA
Notes: Altai's "Princess Ukok" mummy and what her tattoos tell
Notes: Deer Goddess of Ancient Siberia
Notes: How the Scythians vanished...
Notes: On cow symbolism in Parthia/Iran
Notes: Theory of Edenics at work – Hebrew at the root of many languages???
Notes: 10000 yr old 8-rayed solar symbol in Macedonia – origin of solar symbol?
Notes: A comparison of elixirs of immortality around the world

Notes: A strange slab of rock discovered in Russia/Ukraine more than 20 years ago appears to be a combination sundial and moondial from the Bronze Age, a new study finds

Notes: A study of circles, triangles and "keyhole" motifs — Tanit-Astarte-Asherah symbols

Notes: A study of the coinage of Apollo and Ares and their emblems in the Hellenistic world, and comparing Babylonian and Hellenistic traditions

Notes: Abkha hehe heavenly goddess and the Manchu/Jurchen people who revere her

Notes: About Okinoshima and Munakata shrine

Notes: Ahura Mazda, the Iranian and Proto-Indo-European supreme sky god … possibly related to Amaterasu?

Notes: Ancient Nazca-like Kazakhstani swastika seen from the air

Notes: Ancient Polynesian voyaging corridors

Notes: Ancient Royal Horse Unearthed in Iran

Notes: Aratta, the Aryan/Iranian land of the chariot

Notes: Armenian tale of Night Mothers (snake witches) who race to catch the sun

Notes: Assorted readings on serpent and dragon motifs

Notes: Beer was brewed in Jiahu, near Anyang, Henan in Northern China 9,000 years ago

Notes: Bo and Bon – Comparative study between Tibetan Bon and Buryatian Bø religion of ancient Shamanic traditions

Notes: Burmese myth of the incarnation of Phralaong in the Buddha has elements of the descent of a deity upon a mountain imagery and sacred union with a vestal virgin – Princess Maia's immaculate womb conception

Notes: Chariot burials uncovered in Georgia

Notes: Chinese Dragons and types

Notes: Chinese theory on origins of the dragon

Notes: Comparative etymology – naos and naoi

Notes: Descendants of the Iranic Pallavan or Parthian dynasty built the temples and cities of Dravidian Mahabalipuram

Notes: Divination arrows, the art of belomancy in West Asia

Notes: Drought caused Indus Valley civilization's decline

Notes: Early Neolithic Cis-Baikalian cemetery turns up strictly East Asian mtDNA

Notes: Early Siberian human strata, human interactions and influences upon Eurasian and European cultures

Notes: Earth goddess Danu

Notes: Earth goddess Nu Gua

Notes: East Asian genetic component of Saami population

Notes: Eastern genes that made it to the West – haplogroups mtDNA hgs Z, D and Y-DNA hg N

Notes: Eej Mod – The Mother Tree of the Mongolians

Notes: Eos – the Dawn goddess and the abduction of Cephalus

Notes: Etymology of the word "jin"

Notes: Etymology of the word 'mitsu' honey and its Central Asian origins

Notes: Etymology of umi / ama – the etymology of the word form"sea" and awa / sawa meaning "water", "foam" / marsh

Notes: Europeans descended from three ancient tribes

Notes: Evidence of Indo-European words or Proto-IE words in the Japanese language?

Notes: Evidence of Storm god worship by Canaanites

Notes: Examining Fujian folk religion – Ancestral Lord of Clear Spring Water and Xi Hou (Lady Goddess of the West)

Notes: Fire sacrifices to Dosojin

Notes: Gardens and mausoleums of early Japan were influenced by the Persian concepts of paradise…

Notes: Genetic blending between Europeans and Asians represents Scythian culture from Caspian Seas to the Altai to East Asia

Notes: Golden woman(Zolotaya Baba) and Golden Goose (aka World Surveyor Man) of the Ob-Ugric or Finno-Uralic tribes

Notes: Greek influence extended to the art of making Chinese Terracotta Warriors

Notes: Hakata diviners and female khami, crocodile and serpent symbolism

Notes: Indo-Dravidian migrations out of Africa and Dravidian culture as the crucible for Asian mythology

Notes: Japanese lack the "Manchu cluster" C3d gene

Notes: Japan's most common family or surnames

Notes: Kojiki/gushi shared between China and Japan

Notes: Lady Dai Funeral Banner shows the black crow solar motif

Notes: Location of Mt Ararat (landing of Noah's ark) and the mythical notion of the descent upon the mountain

Notes: Lunar and Solar clans

Notes: Mirrors in history and mirror superstitions

Notes: Mysterious Indo-European homeland may have been in the steppes of Ukraine and Russia

Notes: Nara etymology, and the Legend of Nara and Narayana

Notes: Navigating between archaeological facts, legend and historical locations: Locating the Real Birthplace of Buddha

Notes: On the importance and symbolism of twinship in mythology and human psychology

Notes: Origin of the Hata clan

Notes: Origin of the Samruk phoenix or Promethean eagle?

Notes: Origins of the Minoans

Notes: Phallobates, fertility pole cults of the Near East and Hellenized world

Notes: Provenance for formulaic rites to appease weather gods and disappearing deities?

Notes: Qiangic populations and their traditions and beliefs

Notes: Queen of Sheba (Saba) — from her gold mines in Ethiopia to Yemen to become the Tibetan-Chinese Mt. Kunlun's Xiwangmu?

Notes: Resources for investigating King Suro(s) legends, lineages and west asian or Indo-European origins

Notes: Resources for studying the timing of the spread of the Naga-culture from India to the rest of Asia

Notes: Resources on Fox-wife and nine-tailed fox tales of East Asia

Notes: Resources on origins of the Greeks, Minoans and Cretans

Notes: Resources on symbolism of Horses, Dragons, use of amulets, Sutras and Spells in counteracting Disease and Impurities in Japan

Notes: Resources on weavers, weaving and textiles

Notes: Rocks, caves and sun-rooster shared symbols and the relatedness among the Mongolic tribes – Xianbei, Daur, Khitan ("Kara" Black Mongols), Tu(oba) peoples and the Chinese-Korean-Japanese peoples

Notes on the cock's role in the underworld and on Jizo's Central Asian origins

Notes: Sanbutsu Temple – the temple that En no Gyoja is said to have built at the foot of the mountain

Notes: Seven faces in Inner Mongolian prehistoric cliff paintings may represent Big Dipper worship?

Notes: Seven Sages, Stars (Pleiades), Maidens, etc.

Notes: Similarities found between ancient Egyptian and Proto-Indo-European numerals

Notes: Similarity between the myths of Polynesia and East Asia-Taiwan can now be explained by a genetic connection

Notes: Son of Heaven Chinese Emperor's cosmic ritual of sacrificing to the mountains

Notes: Symbolism of the red dot on the forehead between the eyes

Notes: The (Hindu) Legend of the Sami Tree

Notes: The Altai Eurasian griffin or ouroboros-dragon-serpent eating its own tail icons
Notes: The Borneon creation myth and heavenly ropevine
Notes: The connection between Central Asia and/ Far East and Hungarian Magyar
Notes: The Dunhuang Star Chart
Notes: The Heavenly Horse
Notes: The hero's journey to Otherworldly realms or into magical "treasure mountain": Comparing Urashima Taro; Hoori; Rip van Winkle
Notes: The Kalash people – recent genetics research posits a West Asian origin
Notes: The Malta boy – When did Europeans arrive at Lake Baikal?
Notes: The northern Chinese origins of Yunnan Han people confirmed by genetics research
Notes: The Sacred Ram and the significance of the discovery of a 9000-year-old ritual ram artefact in Israel
Notes: The significance of the Maikop Treasure
Notes: The Sumerian-Mesopotamian legacy to the world
Notes: The Ugra-Tara goddess and the cinas
Notes: Theories of an eastern homeland for Aryans and Indo-Europeans
Notes: Tibetan Sacred Horse Symbolism
Notes: Turkic script evidence of Turkic presence in Eastern Mongolia
Notes: Twins motif – The Heavenly Twin Cult in Japan and comparative resources
Notes: Ulan Bator (Mongolia) mummy of Scythian warrior found
Notes: Virgin maiden sacrifices
Notes: What is tantric art? What are the characteristics of tantric deities?
Notes: Who are the Scythians?
Notes: Who were the Xiongnu and the ancestors of the Xiongnu?
Notes: Wusun, Ashina and Turks are brother tribes
Notes: Yona – etymology
Notes: Yugra (a.k.a. Yuhra, Yura), the Yugrans or Ob-Ugrians and their Golden Lady
Nure onna
Ogres and their maces: Images of Oni from Onmyodo doctrines and medieval traditions
Okikurmi's descent upon five colored clouds to the world
Okuninushi, kuniyuzuri and Izumo Shinko
Onda matsuri celebrates fertility of rice field and marital partners
One eyed demons and ogres
Oni definitions and the Oni perspective in Yumemakura
Onibaba – the fearsome legendary 'Demon-hag' of Adachigahara
Onna nue
Origin of the Hinomaru flag
Origin of the Pangu myth, the cosmic egg, the creation of Heaven and Earth and separation of Heaven and Earth imagery, Nuwa repairing the Heavens
Origin of the Three Hares motif
Origins of the Onigawara and the Kawara Museum
Orpheus & Eurydice vs. Izanami & Izanagi; Inanna vs Dumuzi Parallels
Osame Jizo Festival
Oshirasama and Sacrifices to the Silk gods

Oshirasamabotoke, protectors of the silkworm industry
Out of Africa – a survey of the legends and mythical motifs the world may have inherited from a common ancient ancestry with the Khoi-San peoples
Out of Anatolia came …
    Researchers identify present day Turkey as origin of Indo-European languages
Owl deity – Chikap Kamui, owls of Japan, owl tales and talismans
    Why the Japanese like owls
Pearls (tama-jewels), Plants and Elixirs and their Place in the Quest for Immortality
Penis shrines offered spiritual viagra fixes for the ancients
Phallic worship around the world in ancient times
    In the news: Stone Age Phallus Found in Israel
Photo gallery
Pilgrimage to Shinojima island
Pistol fireworks and more about the Yoshida shrine
Places to which the gods descend
Possible provenance of Japanese mythology and beliefs from the Rajput (Indo-Sakka) solar peoples of Northwest India
Reblogged: What it means to be Turk
Reincarnate fox of Mount Shita
Rice festival at Fushimi Inari Grand Shrine
Rice-mochi lifting competitions
Rice-planting pantomime festival in Asuka
Rivers of death in Japanese myth and folklore and in other parts of the world
Rooster rituals and sacrifices in various cultures and since ancient times
    The cock in the Japanese and Central Asian Underworld
Rooster symbolism
Ryugu no tsukai (Oarfish), the Messenger from the Sea Dragon god's palace
Sacred Burmese texts on what happened to Buddha's relics
Sacred Cave of Rome's Founders Found, Scientists Say
Sacred gourd myths
Sacred Groves
    Miao cosmic pillar courtship dance
    Ubusuna shrines, sacred groves, Tokiwa Gozen and other legends surrounding them
Saiboku and a sacred cave on Mt Fuji
Saidaji Eyo naked festival
Sainokami
Saka jinja, Shimane
Sakaki as elite identifier, and the Sakaki Festival
Salt rituals in Japan
Sanai-Isoba: The fire deity and fire custodians of Yonaguni
    Sonaido and Sanai-Isoba – the Hercules of Ohatake, Iriomote, and superhuman priestess of Yonaguni
Set a hill on fire to keep the ghosts away
Setsubun Mantoro lantern festival in Nara
Setsubun: The driving away of ogres and evil spirits in rituals symbolism of beans and fish

Shiisa lions of Ryuku
Shikinen-jinko-sai festival at Katori shrine, Chiba
Shrine in Japan to two weaver-sisters from Koguryo
Solving the mega-mystery of prehistory: Who were the Austro-Asiatic peoples(Australoids) and Austronesia peoples, and what migratory route did they take?
Sources on Ashinanuchi(Ashina-adzuchi or Ashinaduchi), Tenadzuchi and Kushiinada-hime
Sources on Taoism
Stairway to heavenly Haguro
Stories of Dragon Eggs (a.ka. Dragon Inkstones) in Japan
Study Notes: Academic discussions on Susanoo's (and his slain dragon's) provenance from Indo-Iranian or Indo-European storm god prototypes
Study notes: Bronze age donkey sacrifice in Israel where bridle bit found in the mouth evoking ritual chariot context and high status symbol
Study notes: Horse key figure of Turkic mythology
Study notes: Investigating Sealskins, Selkies and Sea goddess folklore
Study notes: Niuheliang relics – Mother goddess figurines and temple
Study notes: Sacred cave legends and the subterranean Netherworld myths — Greeks, Cretans, Minoans, Phoenicians, Karians and Egyptians
Study notes: Slavic Sun deities and cosmology
Study notes: The path of the birds across the sky motif — cultural links across Eurasia
Study notes: The worship of poles — Asherah's Pole | The Cosmic Pole/Pillar
Study Notes: Tracing the steps and lineage of Kumaraju (Kumarajiva)
Study notes: What was the extent of the Greek-Hellenistic influence upon Iran (and the East beyond)?
Study notes: Xiwang mu and the Rabbit in the Moon / Immortality and Paradise
African tales of how the hare got to the moon … and how mankind lost immortality
Study notes: Yamato Takeru, Sacred Swords and Atsuta Shrine
Ta'asobi or Ta-no-asobi: Rice planting fertility dances of old
Ta-no-kami: Water God of the rice paddy
Takachiho: Visit the epicenter of Japanese mythology
Tale of Tamamo-no-Mae, the shape-shifting foxy courtesan and the "killing stone"
Tales of Mystic Mountain: The Legend of the Levitating Monk of Mt Horaiji
Tamahime Shrine and the legend of Toyotama Princess Otohime of Ryugu Castle
Tametomo's ferocity drives away smallpox demon
Tang dynasty influences on the Khitan empire and Daur population links
Tasseography or Tasseomancy – tea-leaf reading in Japan
Tattooing – Gift of Okikurumi Turesh Machi, the ancestral mother deity of the Ainu people
Tel Motza Discovery: Temple And Ritual Vessels Of Cult From King David Era Found Near Jerusalem
Tengu and Buddhism
Tenryo Hita Ohina-Matsuri, or Girl's Festival of Hita, Oita
The Aino tale of the Man who Married the Bear-Goddess, and the Tale of the Hunter who followed the Bear into Hades
The Ainu legend of the thunder deities who turned into the flea and the louse
The Ainu thank the crow for having saved mankind from the sun-devouring devil
The Ainu's "Moses"-like legend – the Baby in the Box that floated away

The Ainu's lucky or unlucky owl stories

The ancestral people of the Yunnan Naxi Minority people who painted the Dongba Painting may have been connected to early Japanese lineages

The Asena-Ashina "wolf" clan and ruling royals

The cannibis-hemp heritage of Japan (reblogged article)

The color red and Jomon people

The copy of the Nestorian stele on Mt. Koya, and A Background of the Nestorian Stele

The Descent of the Patriarch: The metaphor of the parent-child type in myth and history

The Divine Forest / The Sacred Grove

The earliest evidence of the ritual practice of offering up the "ram burnt offering"in Israel?

The eight-spoked wheel

The embracing Sky Father and Mother Earth and the Heavenly Ropevine

The excavated finds of Darumaji, and the Legend of Shotoku Taishi and his encounter with the starving beggar

The Fox-Woman A Labrador Eskimo Legend

The frog is a symbol associated with rain at the Yasaka Shrine

The gift of tattooing, Okikurumi Turesh Machi, younger sister of Okikurumi

The Golden Peaches of Samarkand: A Study of T'ang Exotics ... and other works by Edward H. Schafer

The Gozan – Five Mountain System of Zen

The Guardian: Scientists trace evolution of Indo-European languages to Hittites

The Historical Significance of the Discovery of Large Scale Remnants of Buildings in the Makimuku Ruins, Nara Prefecture — the Yamatai Kingdom

The horse and the ox, and their connection to sea or water gods (including the kappa spirit) and to the sun and moon (celestial heavens)

Notes: The symbolism of white horse & black ox in the Indo-European and Indo-Greek spheres

The Indo-Iranian origins of the Torii gate as a perch for the Simorghian-Phoenix

The Japanese legend of the two hemp weavers

The Kenji – sacred sword and jewel, travel to Ise Jingu with the Emperor and Empress

The Korean Myth of King Suro, golden cord from heaven, six golden orbs in the gooden chest

The Kyushu legend of Wakeno Kiyomaro's rescue by two hundred wild boars

The legend of Jesus Christ in northern Japan

The legend of Lake Tazawako (Akita Prefecture)

The Legend of the 'Never-Dying Mountain', Fujiyama

The Legend of the Cowardly Warrior

The legend of the dragon of Mt Hiei

The legend of why the Ainu don't make pottery

The Legend of "Wan-kase-buchi" the Bowl Lending Pool

The meaning of hands (raised and clapping) in woven kilim of Anatolia and beyond

The miraculous 'grass-cutting sword' (Kusanagi no Tsurugi) of Yamato-dake no Mikoto

Swords excavated from the Kofun Period

The most ancient written document ever found in the Holy City – a tiny fragment of a letter thought to be addressed to Akhenaten, the "heretic" pharaoh who ruled Egypt during the 14th century B.C., possibly sent from the king of Jerusalem, Abdi-Heba

The most secret Primordial Pair: Kamuro-gi and Kamuro-mi

The musubi gods: A comparative survey of binding gods, binding magic and their origins

The ninth day of the ninth month – autumn harvest festivals

The peach as a kami and Mother goddess, and symbol of fertility and immortality

It's the pits: Ancient peach stones offer clues to fruit's origins Date: pits: Ancient peach stones offer clues to fruit's origins

Notes: Paper traces the place where the peach was domesticated to the Kuahuqiao culture in Hangzhou, China

The perpetual life-giving wine and sennin heavenly immortals of Mt. Daimugenzan

The possible provenance for Greco-Roman motifs in Japan

The sacred fire ritual of Kibune Shrine … and others

The sacred sword of Cape Fudo (Fudozaki)

The She-Wolf and Werewolf Wife Tales, wolf worship and wolf shrines in Japan

The shrine as heart and soul of the land in ancient times

The significance of the number 8: The eight-looped sun Shamash-Samas compared with other eight-rayed, eight looped sun or eight-petalled lotus symbols

The story of Ural-batyr

The symbolism and meaning of the top knot and the origin of the practice of wearing top knots

The symbolism behind the golden egg from which Brahma and King Suro emerged

The symbolism of cinnabar – "Dragon's Blood"

The symbolism of jade, jasper and the colour green to the ancients

The Symbolism of Knots: to Knot or not to Knot … that is the Question

Notes: Comparing musubi binding deities and the meaning of the binding power

The Takasago Legend of the Meoto Couple (or the Happy Couple) and the twin pines

The Thracian-Bulgar legacy to the P-I-E and Hellenistic world

At "Europe's Oldest Town," Unusual Fortifications Hint at Prehistoric Riches

The tree fairies, nymphs, she-devils, tiger-women of India, Tibet, the Hindu Kush and Tien Shan

The twin fish, state symbol of Uttar Pradesh and commonly found on ancient buildings of Ayodhya, is the biggest clue to the link and the route undertaken by Kaya (Kara/Gaya) royals to Korea (and Japan)

Pair of Golden fish or Twin Kissing Fish Symbolism

Twin carp motif on bronze mirrors of East Asia

The Weaver Fairy, Swan Maiden Myths, and "White Feather on His Head"

The white wild boar is a messenger or familiar of the fire deity

The wish-fulfilling jewel

The Xiongnu and Mongol connection

The yah-ya quarrelling festival

The Yatagarasu Legend according to Kevin Short

Three crows of Arima

Three deities spotted in the sky in the month without gods

Three versions of the Legend of the Silkworm-Golden Princess from India

Sanrei (Jinja) Shrine and the Silkworm goddess – a Snow White-like tale of abandonment

Toilet gods of Japan, Korea and China

Tokyo's thriving Ainu community keeps traditional culture alive

Tomoe and argabar sun emblems

Tooth blackening custom – origins and processes…

Towadako: Lake so popular a dragon and serpent fought over it
Toyo no Kuni and the Spring of Immortality
TOYOTA-MAHIME:
NINGYO mer-creatures and the Yao Bikuni folktale
The Legend of OTO-HIME
The legend of Sayohime – the loving wife who turned into petrified rock
Watasumi or Owatatasumi and the curious appearance of the crocodile “wani”
Tracking down the origins of the teru teru bozu (てるてる坊主) sunshine doll tradition
Tug-o-war and agricultural festivals
Twin mythology of the Udegeys, distant relatives of the Ainup
Umay – Umai — Ogetsuhime /Ukemochi — The Earth Goddess
Usa Shrine – a ‘power spot’ for battle victory & luck
Ushiku – the tale of the monk who got turned into a cow that got swallowed by the pond
Wagtail Tales of Japan and their parallels elsewhere
Water-pouring purifying festivals
Waterfowl symbolism and genetic links between Finno-Ugric Kanty-Mansi peoples and the Japanese, Buryats, Xiongnu, Yakut, other Northeast Asia populations and the Finnish peoples together
Weaving goddesses of Japan and elsewhere in the world
What is “majinai”?
What’s in a little flower crest? Hollyhock vs. Chrysanthemum emblems : Royals vs. Minamoto-Matsudaira-Tokugawa daimyos
Where to go for dondoyaki rites
Where to go for Setsubun Mamemaki-shiki or bean-throwing ceremonies
Where to go to chase and pelt devils for setsubun ceremonies(2)
Where to go for Ta-asobi ceremonies
White heron (“crane”) dance: Shirasagi-no-mai and heron symbolism
Who is Lord Yama?
Why Japanese greet the pillar of pine and usher in the “Year God”, the Toshigami
Why Soma and Sake are both the drink of the gods
Why the jellyfish has no shell/bone and the clever monkey saves his life
Why thunder deities and thunder-beasts are attracted to Japanese children’s navels
Why yellow carp (ki-funa) are messengers to the Futarasan shrine
Womb Mother and “Great Mother of Mercy and Love” of Bon and Mongol cosmology, and Tibetan influences upon southwest China and East Asia
Xiwang mu Queen Mother of the West, her wild dancing women and rabbit pounding the elixir of immortality
Xiwangmu as a subject in Japanese paintings
Xuanchang’s cauldron lost to the Sea Dragon king
Yabusame (Horseback archery)
Yagura Caves
Yama-inu, Okami legends
Yi people and the legend of Pan hu
Yonaguni Island
Yuzuru and crane symbolism

"Japan and Inner Asia: Some Connections" by Mark Riddle

Blogroll

"A Hindu-Buddhist pantheon and the Japanese sky: Aspects of cosmology and ritual in pre-modern Japan". The University of Edinburgh, 13 Feb 2012 Ian Astley

"A Natural History of Heaven"Mythical Stone: Volume 1 of Mythological Essays

"Chthonic: From Beast to Godhead" by Vadge Moore This paper explores chthonic, earthy, primal infernal gods such as Set, Pan, Bacchus, and Dionysus, deities connected to the soil and rooted in the ground or soil. Chthonic represents the instincts that awaken the soul/wisdom and healing.

"Faces of the Hamitic People" By Khamit Raamah Kush

"Gods of Myth and Stone: Phallicism in Japanese Folk Religion" by Michael Czaja A survey of Dosojin sculptures and their meaning and a pioneering work, the first book in English to deal comprehensively with the origins and meaning of Japanese phallicism and to stress its pivotal position in Japan's folk religion — that foundation of

"Handbook of Japanese Mythology" by Michael Ashkenazi Namazu, Nai-no-kami are Shinto quake deities who are paradoxically also associated with yo-naoshi renewal and bringers of wealth

"Hemp & Japanese Culture" by Brett Paulhus

"Japanese Fairy Tales" by Yei Theodora Ozaki

"Japanese Religions", publications

"Kappa, river imp, water sprite" by Onmark Productions The Kappa is one of many Suijin(water kami, water deities) in Japanese mythology. Suijin are supernatural beings found in lakes, ponds, springs, wells, and irrigation waterways. They are often depicted as a snake, a dragon, an eel, a fish, a turtle, or a

"Myth of the Northern Sub-Urals Folk Belief Today" by Tartu According to the legend, the primordial Duck Chozh crashed and became the Earth. Yen the Duck obtained human appearance and started creating the World

"Primitive symbolism, as illustrated in phallic worship or the reproductive principle"

"Ryukyu Kingdom and Province Before 1945" by George H. Kerr

"Sacred Places of Goddess: 108 Destinations" By Karen Tate

"Shinto: At the Fountainhead of Japan" By Jean Herbert

"Snake, Turtle and Sword: Ancient Constellations Defined" by Stefan Maeder An important work to understanding the iconography of East Asia

"The Hare in the Moon" from "Moon Lore" by Timothy Harley

"The iconography of Cautes and Cautopates I" the data by John R Connells

"The Mythology of Tibetan Mountain Gods: An Overview" by Xie Jisheng Oral Tradition, 16/2 (2001): 343-363 Tibetan mountain gods and the heavenly rope

"The Origins of Indo-European Religion", a lecture by Alexander Jacob

"The Serpent as Sexual Symbol" from The Cult of the Serpent: An Interdisciplinary Survey of Its Manifestations ... By Balaji Mundkur pps 172-210 An examination of the various orphidian cross-cultural interpretations (and possible misinterpretations or overinterpretation) of the symbolism of serpent motifs (zoomorphic or abstract representational - triangular, zig-zag or spiral)) found in the art an

"The Thirteenth Tribe: The Khazar Empire and its Heritage" by Arthur Koestler

"Uighu Folklore and Legends" compiled by John Halsted

"Vala and Iwato: The Myth of the Hidden Sun in India, Japan, and beyond"by Michael Witzel

"When Gods Drank Urine" by Mike Crowley

(Hungarian) Legend of the Wondrous Hind (Stag) by Fred Hamori

12 Honji gongen-deities of Kumano

28 Star Deities, 28 Moon Stations/Lunar Mansions and Big Dipper Mandala/Myoken worship

5th century India, Faxian and Mahayana Buddhism

A case study of the Taiwanese 18 Deities' Royal Lords cult – dog, underworld and water symbolism COMMON SYMBOLS IN EURASIA-PACIFIC UNCONSCIOUS CULTURAL HERITAGE IJAPS, Vol. 7, No. 1 (January 2011) by Igor Sitnikov

A Chronology of Japanese History from the Age of Myths to the Present Time This is not the standard historical chronology but the one including the one found in ancient historical chronicles and records of Japan

A Continent Lost In The Pacific Ocean | Riddle of the Submarine Ruins in the Ryukyu Islands by Masaaki Kimura Book review

A general survey of Danba pillboxes Pillbox and stone coffin construction culture was the culture of the Ranlong tribes who originated from the ancient ethnic Yi tribes – they became the ancestor of the Tibetans

A Glorious Hindu Legacy: Indic influence in Southeast Asia.

A History of Egypt

A History of the Peoples of Siberia: Russia's North Asian Colony 1581-1990 by James Forsyth

A History of Turkmenistan by the Weaving Museum

A PIE hypothesis from the Black Sea region to the Samarra area of Russian steppes to north of the Ural mountains A summary unravelling Proto-Indo-European and PIE culture developments across the Steppes and their movements east and west

A SCROLL OF GLEANINGS FROM ANCIENT STORIES TOGETHER WITH A PREFACE BY IMBE-NO-SUKUNE-HIRONARI, LOWER GRADE OF THE JUNIOR FIFTH COURT RANK

A Statue for the Deity Cult Images in Hittite Anatolia Art and cult images of the Hitttites in Anatolia (Turkey)

A Stirring Monument to Immortality * "Churning of the Sea of Milk" bas-relief This 12th C. work although anterior throws light on the 8th c. record of Izanagi and Izanami “churning of the sea of brine” scenario, with an affiliated genetic signature

A summary of Roman religious beliefs

A-UN, Alpha and Omega, the Name of God Intoned by Koma-inu at Japan’s Shinto Shrines -Part 1 Mark A. Riddle Provenance of stone lion ideology

About Kazakh and Mongolian falconry

About the manifold forms of Hotei-sama The 7 Propitious Gods by Vegder’s Blog

Accession to the throne and major state ceremonies

Achilles-Heel-type folktales and legends

Aesculapius, the healer in the Underworld

Agni, the messenger of both men and gods

Aino Folk Tales by Basil Hall Chamberlain

AINO FOLK-TALES. by Basil Hall Chamberlain

Ainu Legends (PBS.org) Excerpts drawn from The Ainu and Their Folklore, by the English missionary Rev. John Batchelor (London: The Religious Tract Society, 1901)

Ainu tale about the three characters: Grass person; Soil person; Oilcake person

Ainu Tales in Tapestries: Shizue Ukaji at the Philia Museum Alan Gleason The shimafukuro or island owl is a species of fish owl that dwells only on Japan’s northernmost island of Hokkaido. With a wingspan that can reach two meters, it is the largest owl in the world. To the Ainu, the indigenous people of Hokkaido, the shimafuk

Akakura Daigongen "The White Haired Old Man"

Akaruhime A.k.a. Himekoso no yashiro no kami (deity of the Himekoso shrine), and wife of Amenohiboko

Altai Creation Story (Kara-han)

Ama-no-Sakahoko The mysterious Ama-no-Sakahoko – the Heavenly Upside Down (three-pronged) Spear " that is staked on top of the Mt. Takachiho-no-mine is thought to mark the spot where Ninigi-no Mikoto descended onto the sacred peak

Amaterasu (image representation)

Amaterasu myth – origins

Amazons Eurasian Priestesses and Warrior-Women

Ambrosia Greek drink of immortality has Hindu cognate cognate – brought by doves

Amenohiboko 3rd or 4th c. legendary prince of Silla who settled in Japan during the era of Emperor Suinin, venerated at the Izushi Shrine

Amenokoyane no Mikoto One of the chiefs who accompanied Ninigi during his descent from heaven, who performed divining, incantations and nori to

Among Our Earliest Amazons Eurasian Priestesses and Warrior-Women By Jeannine Davis-Kimball

Amyntas of Galatia was Jesus Amen

An Account of the Dionysiac Presence in Indian Art and Culture

An account of Zoroaster's arrival at the court of the King of Iran

An Egg at Easter: A Folklore Study An exhaustive study of the symbolism of eggs in many cultures and periods. Among the topics are creation, fertility, sacrifice, Easter, and game

An Illustrated Guide to Korean Mythology By Won Oh-Choi

An Introduction to the Simorghian Culture and Mithraism in East Asia Miroku and Mithraism, one and the same

An overview of the History of the Japanese Language

ANAT, MOTHER OF GODS BY JIMMY DUNN Variously known as 'Anat', 'Anatu', 'Anath' or 'Anata' to the Ugaritic, Hebrew, Akkadian, Egyptian and Phoenician cultures, and daughter of El or Re and consort of Seth or Baal. Regarded as a just and benevolent goddess of beauty, sexuality, and of the fe

Ancestor worship in prehistoric-ancient times was global

Ancient Buddhism in Japan | SUTRAS AND CEREMONIES IN USE IN THE SEVENTH AND EIGHTH CENTURIES A.D. AND THEIR HISTORY IN LATER TIMES BY Dr. M. W. DE VISSER

Ancient egg found in farmer's field This article examines the mythical significance of egg and egg symbolism surrounding the stone eggs uncovered in Visoko

Ancient Egyptian death rituals Ancient Egyptians used a model boat which they believed could lead them to the other world. After the deceased person was put in the tomb and the tomb was filled with supplies such as couches, beds, boxes, chests, chairs, and weapons, the deceased will ha

Ancient Eurasian peoples

Ancient Felines and the Great-Goddess in Anatolia: Kubaba and Cybelemore By Miriam Robbins Dexter

Ancient grain goddesses

Ancient history

Ancient history of Indo-Europeans Eastern Iranic People ~ Bactrians, Saka Scythians and Tocharians

Ancient Japan. Vol. 1 Cambridge Histories Online

Ancient Mystery Religions

Ancient Near East (Upper Mesopotamia and Transcaucasus) cultures

Ancient nomads, female warriors and priestesses by Jeannine Davis-Kimball (Center for the Study of Eurasian Nomads) Useful information and details on the specific functions of these powerful priestesses and priestess-warriors of the early Eurasian nomads.

Ancient Roman religion

ANCIENT TALES AND FOLK-LORE OF JAPAN by Richard Gordon Smith

Ancient Tales and Folk-lore of Japan by Richard Gordon Smith

Animals in Celtic Life and Myth By Miranda Jane Aldhouse-Green

ANTHROPOGONIC MYTHS OF THE WA IN NORTHERN INDO-CHINA By TARYO OBAYASHI* Given the similarity with Japanese myths of the emergence from caves of deities, of the primordial pair, jade tadpole symbolism, gourd tales, sacrifices to rice spirits, underworld worldview, was the wild Wa country perhaps connected to the Japan's Wa cou

Anthropomorphic and Zoomorphic Miniature Figures in Eurasia, Africa and Meso-America by Dragos Gheoghiu and Ann Cyphers Figurine breakage as a substitute for sacrifice is a practice still performed in the villages of the Lower Danube area; binding funerary rituals of the Near East and Europe, esp. common among Semitic, Greeks and Romans.

Ao, Anyang and Yin The historic Yin tortoise oracle. Famous for the Chariot burials and excavated items of Lady Hao's tomb and other bronze items

Archaeology News and Reports from Japan

Aries – ram's head – womb symbolism

Armenian stele motifs and Sasanian art / Sogdian and Turk close connections

Arrangement of Vinca cultural figurines The key to understanding them lies in the composition and the types of the tools and weapons held by the figurines

Arrow (Symbolism) By the Theosophy Trust

At Matsuo Taisha, turtles, sake and Hata clan Webpage of Green Shinto

Auspicious omens in the reign of the last empress of Nara, Japan by Ross Bender The omen reporting and interpreting techniques found in Shoku Nihongi comprise only one component of a vast, multifaceted complex of ideas trickling into Japan for centuries from the Korean peninsula, China, India, and southeastern and western Asia for m

Aśvaka/Aspa/Assakenoi/Assacenii/Assacani horse-clans of the Kunar and Swat valleys (earlier Kafiristan— modern Nuristan)(near modern Kalash-Valley and Pakistani side of Nuristan) and in some part regions of Gandhara (today Peshawar valley), in present

Aēšma and wrath – Zoroastrian demonology The Middle Persian Zoroastrian & Avesta's picture of Aēšma "of the bloody club" , emphasize the attitude of fear and dread of the demon's power. The yazata Sraoša, embodying religious obedience, discipline, and devotion, is the demon's chie

'A new Paradise myth? An assessment of Stephen Oppenheimer's thesis ... Wim van Binsbergen debunks Oppenheimer's Eden in the East and out of Sunda spread of myths hypothesis

"Shiro Hannya (White Hannya) Mask a female serpent-demon filled with malicious jealousy and hatred... color of the flesh tones of the mask represents the social rank of the woman portrayed. For example a lighter complexion might indicate aristocratic status, light on top and red below ind

"The Foundation of Myth" by Brian R. Pellar Sino-Platonic Papers, 219 (January, 2012) An exposition on key stars and constellations with the author showing that they are the same concepts across cultures, especially that of Taurus, the Ankh and spear of Anu

Baal, God of Thunder The storm god, Baal, was a West Semitic import to Egypt. Late Bronze Age texts discovered at Ras Shamra (ancient Ugarit) on the Levantine coast, from which his cult spread, indicate that by 1400 BC, Baal had displaced the god El to become the most importa

Babylonian Starlore

Baiyue relations with the Han

Banaras: Vision of a Living Ancient Tradition By Winand M. Callewaert, Robert Schilder Of Shiva lingams and yoni

Bato Kannon | Hase Dera Temple | ZoomInfo.com

Bear ritual of the Sami Bear cult shared by The Sami, the ancient Finns, the Tungus, the Gilyaks & other tribes of Siberia, the Ainu of Japan, and Native North American groups, such as the Algonkins and Tlingit

Bear's Plaything on the Central Asian fabled origin of the jaw's harp as aping the music made by the bear pawing the branches of a tree

Bee-keeping and fortune-telling The Beginning of Beekeeping in Japan (Bee Square Yamada bee Farm)

Binding magic of mountain god applied in Vietnamese Taoism

Bird images in the Rg Veda

Boanergers by Rendel Harris On the cult of the Heavenly Twins

Botai Discovery

Brigit (Celtic)

British heritage – Celtic, Basque, Anglo-Saxon and Mediteranean and Middle Eastern haplogroups

Broken Images A famous folktale about Jizo saving children in limbo on the riverbank of Sainokawara and rescuing them from Shozuka-no-baba and her demons

BUDDHISM & SHINTŌISM IN JAPAN A TO Z PHOTO DICTIONARY OF JAPANESE SCULPTURE & ART By ONMARK PRODUCTIONS

Buddhism and early states: Japan and Tibet

Buddhist, Islamic and Jewish Occurrences of the Three Hares (The Three Hares Project)

Buddhist-Confucian-Shinto-folk symbols By the Visual Symbol Dictionary

Busha Sai Sacred Archery Festivals or Foot Archery Festivals

Bussoseki Stone Footprints of Buddha Tracing the history of the stone footprints and the engraved symbols, including the swastika, found on the soles of these footprints

by E. Kuzmina, "The Eurasian Steppes: The Transition from Early Urbanism to Nomadism" and the papers by K. Jones-Bley, "Sintashta Burials and their Western European Counterparts" and "The Sintashta 'Chariots'")

Catacomb culture connected with Indo-Aryans – catacomb burial ritual had roots in SouthWestern Turkmenistan from the early 4th millennium (Parkhai cemetery) THE SINTASHTA CULTURE AND SOME QUESTIONS OF INDO-EUROPEANS ORIGINS. S.A.Grigoryev

Cave Deities and their Symbols Chapter XIII of "Myths of Crete and Pre-Hellenic Europe", by Donald A. Mackenzie, [1917], at sacred-texts.com

Cedar of Lebanon as symbol of Christ Symbolic tree of the Middle East is representative of Christ l- longlived, majestic, with its soaring height, evergreen, it has also come to be associated with eternal life. For this reason, one often finds cedars of Lebanon planted in cemeteries.

Cedars and Stars: Enduring Symbols of Cosmic Kingship in Abraham's Encounter with Pharoah E. Douglas Clark

Celestial ladders in Tibetan art

Celtic wheel of Taranis, the thunder god

Central Asia Ancient DNA

Chapter 2 of John Heise's 'Akkadian language Sumerian is a so called agglutinating language, like Finnish and Japanese (and in fact like the majority of languages in the world). This is a term in the typology of languages that contrasts with inflecting languages, like the Indo-European and Semitic l

CHAPTER XXXIII – THE MAN-TZE, I-REN, OR SHAN-SHANG-REN pp. 443-454 About the Shan Shang mountain people or Man-tze of Sze Chuan

CHICKEN AND FAMILY PROSPERITY: MARITAL RITUAL AMONG THE MIAO IN SOUTHWEST CHINA by Xianghong Feng On rooster symbolism in the culture of the Miao (Hmong) people

Chinese Astronomy by S.Y. Ho Many Chinese myths and legends are related to astronomical observations of the skies

Chinese creation myth Derk Bodde, believed the Pangu myth "to be of non-Chinese origin" (Bodde 1961:383) and linked it to the ancestral mythologies of the peoples such as Miao people and Yao people in southern China. Professor Qin Naichang, head of the Guangxi Institute for Na

Chinese fairies (xian)

Chinese gourd mythology and symbolism

Chinese knot A short history on the origins of Chinese, Korean and Japanese knotwork

Chinese Knotting

Chinese Mythology from A-Z

Chinese Pyramids

Chinese Symbols

Christian Designs Found in Tomb Stones of Eastern Han Dynasty | www.chinaartnetworks.com 2002-08-02 Designs on these ancient stones displayed the artistic style of early Christian times found in Iraq and Middle East area while bearing the characteristics of China's Eastern Han times.

Comparison of Olmec and Shang motifs, writing

Concept of asura demons, as seen in Kofukuji iconography of Nara, early Japan

Contemporary popular beliefs in Japan Yakudoshi, superstitions, maneki cat, omamori etc., are given treatment in this paper

Corded Culture and Craniology | Races of Europe by Carleton Stevens Coon, Of interest to the Turkic history is the observation that Altaic people stem from the same anthropological trunk which generated IE peoples, that Corded Ware Culture was a European branch of the Altaic trunk, that the Turkic linguistical influences in th

Cosmic world tree

Cosmology and Cosmology of the Universe by Brent Meeker The cosmogony and cosmology of the civilizations of ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Greece are studied and compared in this paper

Cow festival

Cucuteni culture building techniques

Cucuteni vertical loom, Ukraine is similar to that of Jomon culture

Cult of the Serpent by Balaji Mundkur

Cult to a syncretic Zeus-Mithra god of the Greco-Bactrian in Ai-Khanoum, Northern Afghanistan (and also to the Cybele-Tanit goddess)

Cults of the Greek States

Cup-Marks and Pre-Historic Rock Carvings: Portals to Other Realms By Gary R Varner Sacred/fertility/rain stones used as altars, with "cup marks" that may have represented "passages through which dead souls entered the other world, as in the past the relatives of the deceased used to carve a small hole in the stone".

Da Qin – The Han dynasty concept of Utopia

Dangun / Tangun mythology

Daoism Handbook by Livia Kohn

Datsueba

Death and mountain kami – the origins of mountain kami

Death and the Afterlife in Japanese Buddhism by Jacqueline I. Stone and Mariko Namba Walter Buddhist funerary rites at every stage of evolution incorporated local religious, folkloric cultural beliefs

Dewi Sri in Village Garb – Nanzan Institute for Religion and Culture

Did Ancient China Influence Olmec Mexico? – Academia.edu

Disappearing deities mytheme There is a month in Japanese mythical belief where all the gods go in vacation to Shimane

Discoveries-in-Western-Tibet-and-the-Western-Himalayas-Essays-on-History-Literature-Archaeology-and-Art Tibetan Zhang zung polity, Tibet as repository of bon beliefs, and on the Upper Mustang "Mongolian" mortuary patterns (similar to Kofun ones)

Divination and the interpretation of signs

Divination systems

Divine Archer Hou-Yi, Xi Wang Mu, the Sun Palace and the Celestial Cock mythology – (From Myths and Legends of China, by E. T. C. Werner) Divine Archer Hou-Yi, Xi Wang Mu, the Sun Palace and the Celestial Cock

Dog ancestor myths

Dog-headed races Legendary creature, bestiary and bizarre people pt 1

Dolmens of India Dolmens in Shillong look like those in Kyushu; Dolmens are found the Khasis in the North-East; the tribals in Jharkhand, dolmens called Sasandiris are still raised by the Austric Mundas, and Dravidian speaking Oraons

Dondon Yaki New Year Fire Festival in Shizuoka Originally, a fertility harvest ritual or folk tradition, now the Dondon Yaki fire festival in Japan is now a New Year tradition in, which every family brings their New Year's decorations to set to the torch after Shinto ceremony as a wish for perfect

DOSANKODEBBIE'S ETEGAMI NOTEBOOK Etegami website by Deborah Davidson

Dosojin (Nakasendo.com website)

Draco constellation: Facts about the dragon

Dragon symbolism and Mt Muro's sacred geography

Dream Motif in Turkish Folk Stories and Shamanisfic Initiation By I l h a n B a s g o z

Early and middle neolithic figurines – the migration of religious beliefs Addresses the custom of broken figurine from Precucuteni Starcevo sites

Early Chinese Mysticism : Philosophy and Soteriology in the Taoist Tradition by Livia Kohn Kohn shows how the quietistic and socially oriented Daode jing was combined with the ecstatic and individualistic mysticism of the Zhuangzi, with immortality beliefs and practices, and with Buddhist insight meditation, mind analysis, and doctrines of karm

Early Japanese and Early Akkadian Writing Systems: A Contrastive Survey of "Kunogenesis" by Jun Ikeda

Early Taoist magicians in the court of Qin Shi Huang-Ti

Early Years to the Heian Era A Brief History of Japan

Earth Store Bodhisattva (Jizo Bosatsu in Japanese) A good compendium on Jizo, Online Source: Unknown author, www.quangduc.com/BoTat/diatang/.../Earth_Store_Bodhisattva.doc

Easter Egg Folklore

Easter: A Study Of Folklore and Legend For Gnostics, Occultists and Crafters

Eastern Iranic People: Bactrians, Saka Scythians and Tocharians

Eastre, was a pagan holiday celebrated by the Anglo-Saxons that was intended to be a festival celebration to welcome the spring season . During this celebration, the pagans would worship their Goddess of Offspring and Springtime, Eastre, through her earthly form – the rabbit

Eden, paradise Mt Meru, the Tree of Life and the Cross

Egg (by Book Rag)

Egg magic and Folklore by Patti Wigington

Egiin Gol stone circle cemeteries

Egs of Unified Silla pagodas and stupas

Egyptian belief of a funerary path to the Netherworld originated with the Sumerians Egyptian beliefs: Demons were warded from the passage of the Osiris by spoken curses...but his course would be quite safe for two reasons. First he lived by Ma'at, and so was a good man; secondly he knew the way from traveling the 'bridge' when he

En no Gyoja Regarded by all yamabushi as the founder and as their spiritual ancestor, En-no-gyôja was an ascetic-hermit who lived in the 7th century and got along with the bouddhic magic, and others... Called En-No-Ozuno which means "En (delivery: Japanese èn) "th

Encounter Or Syncretism: The Initial Growth of Japanese Buddhism By Jacques H. Kamstra

Eneolithic horse exploitation in the Eurasian steppes: diet, ritual and riding On the dietary and the ritual role of horses in the Eneolithic Western Eurasian steppes. Horses were strongly associated with the world of humans and had become an important symbol in mortuary rituals by about 5000 BC.

Enkidu's vision of the Netherworld from the Epic of Gilgamesh: Tablet VII ...he... and turned me into a dove, so that my arms were feathered like a bird. Seizing me, he led me down to the House of Darkness, the dwelling of Irkalla, to the house ... where those who dwell, do without light, where dirt is their drink, their food i

Enma and traditional death rites of Japan

Enmusubi Kannon / Eleven-headed kannon

Ennin's Life and Journey Establishes the connection between Ennin's teachings and Wutai taoist mountain ascetism and Kaifeng (where large Jewish & western community lived)

Epic of Gilgamesh Aruru, the goddess of creation, created Enkidu to act as a counterforce to Gilgamesh...by taking some clay and forming a man. The Sin-Leqi-Unninni version of Gilgamesh says his father is Ninsun's husband, Lugulbanda, but it is not clear if Lugulbanda is

Esoteric Buddhism and the Tantras in East Asia

Ethnic History of the Usuns (Yu. A. Zuev)

Etymology of Kam(i)-Kam(uy); Kam-boja; Kum, Kom;Cam-bay or Kam-baya or Kam-baet; Kama(sksrt); Cama-by or Cambyses or Kam-bhoj; Kambala

Etymology of uma "horse" from "muma" ancient obsolete word of Paekche, Chinese origin

Eurasian Warrior Women and Priestesses Petroglyphic, Funerary, and Textual Evidence for Women of High Statu

Eurasian World Trees

Evidence of worship of the Horned God in early Celtic London Could the horned god and king of the underworld with his gods be remotely connected to the horned deities of Japan?

Evidence supporting an ancient Olmec and Shang-China connection

Evolution of the Chinese dragon symbol

Exploring mushroom symbolism and connections with the Soma and Maya "Mushrooms of Mesoamerica"

Far Eastern goddeses

Fascinating Mural Stories from the Dunhuang Grottoes Stories behind the Mogao Cave Grottoes, the Dunhuang Cave shrines

Female figurines (Pharaonic Period)

Fertility and phallicism at Yaegaki Shrine (Green Shinto)

Fertility Festival (Tsunakake sai) by Green Shinto

Fertility symbols of Ogata Shrine's Grand Festival (Hime no miya)

Festival at Niu Kawakami Shinto shrine in Shimoichi-cho, Nara The revival of an ancient ceremony once held as a state festival in 763 — the Imperial court would present a black horse to the water deity at the shrine or a white horse to stop excessive rains=damage from the tsunami/typhoon

Festivals and rituals of Japan

Festivals, Feasts and Gender Relations in Ancient China and Greece

Figurines provide clue to Olmec trading links in Mexico

Find out about djinns

Finnish thunder god, Ukko Ukko's sword; Ukko's hammer, ax, and club

Finno-Ugrians – the Permian Animal Style Wikipedia on Permian animal bronzes of the Iron Age

Finno-Ugrians – the Permian Komis of Upper Kama River

Finno-Ugrians – who were they? Description of the Finno-Ugrians in "The New Cambridge Medieval History" Volume 3, c.900-c.1024

Finno-Ugrians: "Permian animalstyle"- bird and bear motifs

Fire in ancient Lithuanian religion and mythology

Fish and Fishing in Holocene Cis-Baikal, Siberia 3000 to 2500 cal BP marks the arrival of pastoralists in Cis-Baikal (the Iron Age, followed by the Mongolian Time), who relied on a mixture of herding (sheep, goats, cattle, and horses), hunting, and fishing. Pastoralism persisted in the area ...millet a

Fishy tales of the namazu (Silurus asotus) Five different namazu legends apart from the well-known Kashima catfish myth

Flood Stories from Around the World

Flood Stories From Around the World by Mark Isaak Flood stories from the world's folklore

Folk legends of Japan By Richard Mercer Dorson

Folklore and Mythology Electronic Texts by D. L. Ashliman

Folklore of China by Nicholas Belfield Dennys ebook on Chinese folkore and superstitions

Folklore of Orissa by Jphn Beames

Folklore of Orissa by K.B. DAS, L.K. MAHAPATRA

Frog deities For instance, the Frog plays the important role of messenger in Zhuang myths of Guangxi province. The legend behind the huge Shang bronze drum adorned with six Frogs,

FROM BIRTH TO BURIAL: THE CURIOUS CASE OF EASTER EGGS before the egg became firmly linked to Christianity, it was a symbol of life dating back at least 2,500 years. Our first historical records of egg symbolism in religion date to about 500 BC. In the Achaemenid period, the Iranian calendar was influenced by

From frog to Nuwa

Frontier's of Anthropology "Some Diagnostic Traits of Sundaland Lore" About similarities between folkloric versions of chaos dragons, seven-headed serpents and dragons

Frozen tombs of the Altai (UNESCO document)

Fu Do Sword Ceremony

Fudaraku paradise and Fudarakusen (boata)

Fudo Myo-O

Fujiyoshida Himatsuri – Fire Festival to appease the deity of Mt Fuji

Fumi-e and the ban on Christianity and persecution of Christians in Japan

Fumi-e, Koyasu Kannon covert magdaleneand the ban on Christianity in Japan

Further steps towards an aggregative diachronic approach to world mythology starting from the African continent by Wim van Binsbergen http://www.shikanda.net/ancient_models/further.htm

Fuxi, Nuwa, Shennong, Houyi, Yao, Shun, Yu: Prehistoric legends of early Chinese gods and sages

Genealogy of Religion Explorations in evolution, anthropology and religion

GENES AND MYTHS: ANCIENT MAL'TA DNA AND THE EARTH-DIVER MYTHOLOGICAL MOTIF

Genetics Rewrites Pacific Prehistory Tlingit legends recount or "record" that strange people came from the Western Ocean

Genzu Mandala and Myoken

Georgian mythology

German Easter Bunny symbol and Dutch Osterhase

Geser, the National Epic of the Buryats Goldeneye duck and waterfowl elements of the Geser myth are seen in the haniwa of the Kofun period in Japan

Gilgamesh and Humbaba in Mesopotamian Art

Gilgamesh, the Cedar Forest and Mesopotamian History Aaron Shaffer Gilgamesh (aided by Enkidu) in his quest for immortality, cut down cedars in the sacred grove of the Cedar Forest which is the glorious realm of the gods of Mesopotamian mythology. It is guarded by the demigod Humbaba

Go-sekku: Five sacred festivals of japan

God and Caesar in China On the four waves of Christianity (called the "Luminous" religion or jingjiao) into China in antiquity – including the monks of the Syro-Persian Church of the East (Nestorian monks) who had established their presence in the 7th-mid-9th c.; and possibly

Goddess Ostara | History of Easter Eggs | History of the Easter Bunny| Goddess Ishtar and the First Resurrection

Goddess Tara in Tibet, China and Japan Positing origins from Aphrodite-IshTAR-AsTARte?

Gods and goddesses of Taoism / Daoism

Golden woman of Ugra Mysterious goddess of the Khanty-Mansi people

Gosekku – Five major festivals

Gourd culture and the deluge associations in SEA P.507

Green Shinto Blog Green Shinto is a blog by John Dougill operating out of Kyoto which is dedicated to the promotion of an open, international and environmental Shinto. It seeks to celebrate the rich heritage of the tradition.

Griffins and Arimaspeans A multidisciplinary approach to the origins of the Griffin

Gu gun no Hime goddess and the origin of the Awabi Festival

Guanyin/Kannon (Kanzeon) introduced into China as early as the 1st century AD, and reached Japan by way of Korea soon after Buddhism was first introduced into the country from the mid-7th century.

Hakone jinja or Hakone Shrine (by Green Shinto)

Hanayomeningyo (Bride Dolls) Forms of spirit marriage are practiced in many regions of East Asia. In parts of Tohoku, as well as some other areas of Japan, kimono-clad bride dolls are dedicated to the souls of children and youths who have died before marriage

Handbook of Chinese Mythology by Lihui Yang and Demin An

Handbook of Japanese Mythology by Michael Ashkenazi

Hannya Hannya demonness is associated with folklore of Kyoto, and with Noh masks and bunraku theatre

Happy Solstice! (Rock Cave Myth) by Green Shinto

Harare and shubatsu rituals

Hares in Mythology (BBC) One of the oldest myths in the world, the hare trail begins in Africa and Egypt and to the Celts to China from which it spread to the rest of the world

HARES JUXTAPOSED WITH GREEN MEN (Green Man of Cercles)

Hayagriva The Horse-Headed Deity in Indian Culture Horse-headed avatar of Vishnu, seen as a white horse pulling the sun up to the heavens daily, bringing light to darkness; associations with the ocean; a demon in an alternative tradition

he Migration and Landtaking of the Magyars by András Róna-Tas

Heritage of Tibet by W. Zwalf Bon religion and other Tibetan cultural traits may be studied for their deep-in-time influences upon Japanese culture

Hibara jinja and Amaterasu (Green Shinto)

Hidden Christianity – truth or myth

Himiko and Japan's Elusive Chiefdom of Yamatai by Jonathan Edward Kidder

Himiko and Yamatai legends are the context for latest Tomb Raider video game

Himukai Daijingu, (The Kyoto Ise)

Hindu devas take a Silk Road trip to Japan!

Hinduism and Buddhism: An Historical Sketch The full text (in three volumes). By Sir Charles Elliot

Hiraizumi

History and language of the Saka people A Wikipedia resource

History of Genealogy

History of Sumo (sumo talk) This page describes some of the spiritual traditions and customs surrounding sumo wrestling , and their meaning

History of the Cedar Tree

History of the Korean Sword About the Hwarnag Warrior Knights heritage

History of the Shimogamo and Kamigamo Shrines Bastions of e Kamo and Hata clans

History of the Tatara Yamata-no-orochi myth

Hittite/Hurrian mythology

Honji Suijaku and the Sanjubanjin-thirty protector-kami

Honjibutsu and Honji Suijaku

Horse-headed Jvarasura fever demon, flanked by Sitala goddess of small pox A deity flying to escape the wrath of the Buddhist goddess, who is the destroyer of all disease and epidemics

http://data.kdata.kr/page/Yeongoksabukbudo Kalavinka and Four Guardian Kings relief carving on Korean octagonal stone North Stupa of Yeongoksa

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Susanoo-no-Mikoto His Swift-Impetuous-Male-Augustness on the spot changed Kushinada-hime into a many-toothed close-comb which he stuck in the august knot of his hair. Then he made Ashi-nadzuchi and Te-nadzuchi to brew eight-fold sake, to make eight cupboards, in each of th

http://knottynotions.com/kt/japanese-knotting The histories of Japan clearly record the wrapping of a gift from China to the Japanese Emperor in 607CE which so impressed him with its elegance that it gave rise to the art of mizuhiki. Hanamusubi is obviously an art closely related to mizuhiki, althou

http://www.japan-talk.com/jt/new/japanese-fox-weddings

http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/Chinese_Customs/Guan_Yin.htm Guanyin/Kannon was introduced into China as early as the 1st century AD, and reached Japan by way of Korea soon after Buddhism was first introduced into the country from the mid-7th century.

Human Fertility Cults and Rituals of Bengal: A Comparative Study by Pradyot Kumar Maity

Hunter–gatherer migrations, mobility and social relations: A case study from the Early Bronze Age Baikal region, Siberia During the Early Bronze Age, the Little Sea area of the Baikal region saw entire hunter–gatherer families migrating there from other parts of the Cis-Baikal, such as the Angara and upper Lena valleys

Icons of the Matrika Several key themes of the iconic woman repeat on a global scale: vulva signs, female figurines, ancestor megaliths, and ceremonial vessels in the form of women or female breasts. These recurring signs reflect the spiritual concerns and ritual life of the

Icons of the Matrix II

Icons of the Matrix III: Breastpots Breast tripods were a common form of ceremonial chalice in ancient northeastern Asia, from China and Mongolia to southern Siberia. A clay tripod from Aginskoye in the Transbaikal bears narrow incisions of parallel vertical lines on the breasts. In neolith

Identification of Soma and notes on lexeme corpora of ancient Indian languages

imashiro Kofun sheds light on Kofun period architecture (blogger resource)

IN GHOSTLY JAPAN By LAFCADIO HEARN

In Search of the Indo-Europeans Language, Archaeology and Myth by J. Mallory

Inana's descent to the nether world: translation From The Electronic Text Corpus of Sumerian Literature resource INANNA

Inanna and Dumuzi in japan???

Inanna ~ Dumuzi Mythos – A Comparative Study

Inanna/Ishtar Ishtar is Semitic for the goddess Inanna of Sumeria... the courtesan of the gods. She possessed a litany of weapons and one of her totems was the lion. Aka the Eye goddess, one of the oldest of these Eye Temples, dating back to about 3000 BCE, is at Tell

INARI / Oinari / Oinari-sama Shinto God/Goddess of Rice & Food

Inari The Shinto Rice Kami by Becky Yoose

India's influences upon Japan (and other countries) in antiquity

Indian creation legend (Oracle Thinkquest)

Indian creation legend of Cosmic Egg, from which two halves emerged the Purusha (Iswara the Cosmic Male) or Prakiti (Iswani – Mother Earth) Google also "Purusha the Universal Cosmic Male and Prakiti the Mother Nature"

Indian Mythology and Japanese Mythology By Open Base

Indian Mythology | The Gods of Sky and Air

Indian-Korean DNA: princess Heo Hwang's origins in Ayodhya

Indo-European and Semitic languages by Grzegorz Jagodziński

Indo-European Deities and the gveda by N. D. Kazanas

indo-Iranian word Soma is the same as the Soma Uralic word for hewn wooden mortar bowl used to press dried agaric mushroom with stones into water

Inner Asia at the Dawn of History The Cambridge History of Early Inner Asia, Volume 1 edited by Denis Sinor

INTERLUDE III: Deguchi, Ueshiba and Omoto: Part 1: The First Suppression Pete Goldsbury's examination of the origins of Omoto and the events leading up to the First Suppression of the organization in 1921

Interpretations of Eurasian Archaeology The Bronze Age

Interpreting the symbolism of the linga

Iron metallurgical and kurgan cultures on the eastern fringes of Eurasian steppelands from South Siberia to Korea

Is Japanese Related to Korean, Tungusic, Mongolic and Turkic? By Martine Irma Robbeets See p. 32 – 35 on whether there was a horse-rider invasion or merely a continuous influx of waves of migrants fleeing the strife and war disturbances of the Korean Three Kingdoms

Ise Journal; Sun Goddess's Sojourn (Will Shinto's Star Rise?)

Isis Unveiled: A Masterkey to the Mysteries of Ancient and Modern Science and Theology On the still earlier origin than the Egyptian and Chaldean assigned to the Virgin " Mother of God," Queen of Heaven. Isis is also by right the Queen of Heaven, and is generally represented carrying in her hand the Crux Ansata composed of the mundane cros

Ismailism – what is it? and the extent of the Fatimid empire In search of what came before Ismailism, proto-Ismailists religion and culture

Ister or Istros, King of Rivers, River -God of Skythia

Iu-Mien Legend of Pan hu, the celestial dog and the princess

Izanagi (The Encyclopedia of Shinto)

Izanagi and Izanami (Myths Encyclopedia)

Izanagi and Izanami in video presentation

Izanami (The Encyclopedia of Shinto)

Izanami-no-mikoto

Izumo myths

Izumo Taisha and its legends

Izumo Taisha and Kojindani

Japan and Inner Asia: Some Connections By Mark A. Riddle Many of the Japanese legends preserved from ancient times have connections, not only with the neighboring cultures of EasternAsia, but with the cultures of people living in regions far removed from Japan. Riddle cites as evidence of those connections, i

Japan's Creation Myth Kuniumi Shinwa By the Awajima Island Kuniumi Association

Japan's Creation Myth Kuniumi Shinwa By the Awajima Island Kuniumi Association

Japanese artefacts Photo Gallery

Japanese Creation Myth A modern retelling of Tales from the Kojiki from Genji Shibukawa. Kojiki is Japan's oldest chronicle, compiled in 712 CE by O No Yasumaro.

Japanese Creation Story -as told in the KOJIKI

Japanese folktale: Fistful of gratitude

Japanese Heraldry

Japanese Knots Japanese knotwork may have originated from either the Chinese or Celtic knot

Japanese Knotting: Mizuhiki & Hanamusubi The histories of Japan clearly record the wrapping of a gift from China to the Japanese Emperor in 607CE which so impressed him with its elegance that it gave rise to the art of mizuhiki. Hanamusubi is obviously an art closely related to mizuhiki, althou

Japanese myths of heavenly descent

Japanese numerology and astrology The oldest form of Chinese Astrology is the so called Nine Star Ki astrology. Nine Star Ki belongs as a part of Feng Shui. The Nine Star Ki says which star stood centrally in the year of birth and these influence your most important character qualities

Japanese related to the Greeks-theory is debunked Genetics Studies in the Greek Population vs Pseudoscience

Japanese Shinto and Tibetan Bon teachings

Japanese Starlore and Astronomical History

Japanese swords Genbukan Tokyo Shibu

Japanese symbols of government (or authority)

Japanese Tide Jewels

Japonic language relationship to Korean language

Jar burial tradition in Southeast Asia A comparative survey of practices in SEA and East Asia

Jewel in the Ashes: Buddha relics and power in early medieval Japan

Jingu Travel blog about the Ise Jingu shrine

Jizo

Jizo Bodhisattva Dictionary by Soka Gakkai International

Jizo Sama (Daruma Museum Gallery)

Jizo the Japanese equivalent of the Indian Khshitigarbha Buddhist sects and sectarianism By Bibhuti Baruah

Jizo's origins By Buddhist Artwork

Jizo's various forms in India Article by the A-Z Photo Dictionary – Japanese Buddhist Statuary

Junishi: Stories of the Animal Zodiac

K A M I Combining Deities and Traditions in Japanese Religion

Kachikachi-yama

Kalash mountain religion Possible common provenance of Indo-European-Iranic mythical traditions and mountain religious beliefs (sharing of rare Y-DNA haplogroup D)

Kami – Combining Deities and Traditions An academic paper originally submitted by Brendon Newlon at UCSB, 2004

Kami vs. Kamuy Independent Study by Eugenia Bucellato Prof. Ozaki

Kanamara Matsuri – the Annual Penish Festival in Kawasaki City Festival The origins of this Shinto festival stem from an innkeepers daughter who had the misfortune of having a demon with sharp teeth fall in love with her. As demons are wont to do, the little bastard decided to take up residency in her vagina, and then wield h

Kanji characters and onyomi derived from Wu, Xian (Tang dynasty) and Old Chinese dialects similar-sounding to Hakka and Cantonese

Kannon, the goddess of mercy and pets Japan Times

Kannon: the goddess of mercy and pets | The Japan Times

Kappa: A Swimming Threat! Or not...?

Kara was the old Persian term referring to the Archaemenid warrior or warring army

Kara-kum-kuduk

Karaite DNA Is Kara-no-kuni synonymous with Karaite regions of Central Asia?

Kasajizo (Japan Folklore)

Kashima jingu enshrines the god of quake prevention in Ibaraki prefecture

Kasida – the ancient hunting-battle-funerary dance (of the Qiang and Tibetans)

Khazaria Genetics

Khorezm – land of the sun Shares the same heritage as Japan as an early Kushan refuge for solar worshipping Saka-Iranic tribes, land of the sun

Khorezm – land of the sun Shares the same heritage as Japan as an early Kushan refuge for solar worshipping Saka-Iranic tribes, land of the sun

Kii mountains and mountain ascetics

Kimono of the Edo period (1615-1868) In the Edo period

King Mu and Queen Mother of the West The origin of Xiwangmu, the Queen Mother of the West, has given rise to some fascinating speculations, and there are many tales about her. In the Shanhaijing (Book of Mountains and Seas) she is depicted as a fearsome creature with a leopard's tail and tig

Kintaro (Japan Folklore)

Kipchak beliefs and lifestyle Kipchaks regarded the wolf "bori" and the dog "It/ Kopec (<Turkic dog)" as sacred, with persons, clans, or tribes taking on the name of the dog, or type of dog

Kissing fish – Carved in stone: Historic India-Korea links discovered

Kitsune, kumiho

Kodai saishi (Ancient Rituals)

Koen, the Dragon Bodhisattva

Kojiki Tales Amaterasu tries to conceal herself Youtube animation

Kojindani's swords -largest cache in Japan – Kojindani Museum According to the museum, the swords originate from China

Komahiki shinji "Horse Leading Ritual." The komahiki shinji takes place an October 15 at Masumida Jinja in Ichinomiya City, Aichi Prefecture. In this festival, the horses to be used in the next year's tōkasai (held on April 3) are selected. There are only thirty horses

Konohanasakuyahime's safe birth of a child in the benign bowers of the volcano

Korean folklore on snakes Entitled "2013, the Year of the Snake comes slithering in"

Korean Genetics: Abstracts and Summaries

Korean mythology An-Illustrated-Guide-to-Korean-Mythology.pdf

Kuan Yin & Tara

Kukai summoned the rain This involved a rite to summon the third nāga princess of the Nāga King Sāgara, the emanation of Cintāmaṇicakra Avalokitēśvara Bodhisattva to come from the snowy mountains of the Himalayas

Kukai's Vajra and Bell Kukai's possessions illustrate the mikkyo's connections with Vajrayana or Tantric Buddhism

Kukai, the founder of Shingon Buddhism in Japan

Kumaso Jinja and the six shrines of Ou By Green Shinto

Kumihimo Japanese began a decorative way of fastening kimonos around 550 AD and developed braiding cord and silk for Samurai warriors to lace & decorate their armor and scabbards.

Kushan Yue-chih and Bactrian history

Kutune Shirka, The Ainu Epic tr. by Arthur Waley

Labrys – Battle-axe origins and shared symbolism between Greeks, Karians (Anatolians), Minoans, Thracians and Norse-Scandinavians

Language Change in East Asia by T. E. McAuley p.145-148 On the derivation of onyomi and spoken kanbun from Chinese language over the centuries beginning with go'on yomi (Wu readings) in the 5th c., kan'on in the 7-8th c., with lexical and phonological borrowings beginning in the Nara Period, significant im

Legend of the Wondrous Hind by Fred Hamori Hungarian golden stag, royal heavenly twins cult

Legend of the"wolf": Probing int oits cultura limages TENG Yong—qing

Legends of the Land of the Gods Re-told by Frank Rinder

Lions, silks and silver: the influence of Sasanian Persia How lion iconography took captive of the imagination of people across many lands

List of Honji Suijaku

Living Buddhist Statues in Early Medieval and Modern Japan

Lord Surya Narayana and the Vivasya sun deity

Lost Treasures of Japan (video link)

Lost Treasures of the Ancient World – Japan

Mahabalipuram Cave temples of the Pallava (Dravidia) and gigantic open air reliefs carved from blocks of granite date to 7th c.

Mahabalipuram expedition found submerged temples beneath the sea Source: New Underwater Finds Raise Questions About Flood Myths

Mammoth Hunters of the last Ice-Age, their legacy, and "World Surveyor Man" Touching on the sun wheels, mother deity, spiral and zigzag motifs, Golden Goose, (phallic) Swan Prince=Rising Sun and World Surveyor Man, Bear and Human Sacrifices,Great Bear and Cygnus Constellation, Cosmic Elk and White Horse,

Mandala: the Architecture of Enlightenment

Maneki Neko (by Onmark Productions)

Mark A Riddle on Mountain Temples

Matsuri traditions of japan According to "Discover a Miracle Japan you didn't know..."

Matsuri: Festivals of Japan

Megaliths of India From Kashmir to Kerala and from Itanagar to Gandhinagar India, tribes of India such as the Mundas, Sabaras, Oraons, Asurs, Hos, Gadabas, Maria Gonds, Maravars, Kacharis, Bhils, Garos, Angami Nagas, Bondos, and Garos etc have been building various megalith

Megijima – Demon's island and Momotaro

Mehgarh Neolithic

Meteorites in History and Religion Throughout the ages, meteorites were venerated as sacred objects by different cultures and ancient civilizations.
Mexican storm god (ceramic) effigies
Michael Como's writings and publications
Mikanko of Kasuga taisha
Mikkyo, Koyasan
Miko, Shrine Maiden
MIND GAMES | THE SHAMANIC JOURNEY : CHEMISTRY AND COSMOLOGY by PAUL D. BURLEY Mircea Eliade: 'The funerary bridge, a link between the Earth and Heaven which human beings use to communicate with the gods, is a common symbol of ancient religious practices. At some point in the distant past such bridges had been in common use, but
Minoan civilization was made in Europe... DNA casts doubt on Egyptian origin for ancient Cretans.
Minoan goddesses
Mirrors of the Ama-miyayama burial mound and Silla-related haniwa earthenware production centre of the Ama village
Mirrors to Japanese History by Walter Edwards Archaeology Magazine Vol. 51 Number 3. May/June 1998
Mithra by Tony Mierzwicki
Mithraic mysteries and imageries of the constellations
Mithraism On this page, the emblem of the Raven and its role as messenger of Mithras, interchangeable with or replacing Mercury ... the raven initiates described by Pseudo-Augustine who says that 'some flap their wings like birds and imitate the crowing of a raven,
Mithridates & The Roman Conquests in the East, 90-61 BCE Exploring the possible influence of the Mithradates "the greatest king living" and other Near East kingdoms following the conquest of these by Pompei and Roman attempts to consolidate and organize the Roman power in Asia Minor, Syria, and Palestine.
Mitochondrial DNA and Y Chromosome Variation Provides Evidence for a Recent Common Ancestry between Native Americans and Indigenous Altaians
Mizuhiki
Mizuhiki art The basis of Mizuhiki Art is Awaji Musubi.
Mizuhiki Art (2)
Mizuhiki cording
Modern system of ranked Shinto Shrines
Momotaro (Little Peachling) T. Hasegawa publication
Momotaro (Little Peachling) T. Hasegawa publication
Momotaro (The Peach Boy) and the Spirit of Japan: Concerning the Function of a Fairy Tale in Japanese Nationalism of the Early Showa Age* by Klaus Antoni . The tale and its central motif are analyzed and traced back through history to its earliest forms. Heroes from legend and history offered perfect identification patterns and images for the propagation of state ideals that were spread through educatio
Momotaro and the Peach Boy: J. vista"the islands south of Japan were in general " demon worlds " and their inhabitants ate humans Prince Tametomo, a General, was ordered by Prince Yoritomo his elder brother, to pacify the western part (chinzei) of the land. So he placed a thousand hooks, hung his mighty bow on the Fusang Tree...became mighty and strong, subjugating...
Momotaro Jinja (Momotaro Shrine) and the Legend of Momotaro
Momotaro Shrine, Inuyama, Aichi

Mongol creation stories: man, Mongol tribes, the natural world, and Mongol deities. (brief analyses of several stories) Nassen-Bayer; Kevin Stuart Asian Folklore Studies Vol.51 No.2 (Oct 1992) pp.323-334

Monkey lore Comparing monkey lore of Japan, China and India (by Onmark Productions)

Monsters and Heraldry – chap XIII of "A Complete Guide to Heraldry" by Arthur Charles Fox-Davies

Moon goddesses of the world

Moon-gazing hare of the Britons

Mother Goddesses of Greece and Rome

Mt. Urabu and the megalith

Mukkuri On the Ainu mukkuri (Jew's harp or jaw harp)

Muma, Ma, Baha, Mare Mark Marc = etymology of horse J. horses arrived via Mahan and possibly, even earlier via the Iranian Makkan land of the the Baḵtīārī tribe => Baekje chiefdom

Munakata by Mark A. Riddle

Mystery Pyramids of Japan: Yonaguni Discovery Networks

Mystic Pottery and Cosmic Eggs – a study of two aspects of the Yangshao culture

Mythological Archaeology by Wim van Binsbergen Hypothesizes the long-range out-of-Africa spread of key myths along several dissemination routes A and B and spheres of myth complexes called Laurasian vs Gondwana

Mythology by Richard McLaughlin On interpreting mythology

Mythology of Greece and Japan: archetypal similarities By George A. Sioris

Mythology of the Lolo bronze drums

Myths of China and Japan by Donald Alexander Mackenzie. "The idea that the peach was a kami appears to be connected with the Chinese conception of a peach world-tree, a form of the Mother Goddess, the fruit of which contains her " life substance " or shen as do the jewels like the pearl and jade objects; the p

Myths of Crete and pre-Hellenic Europe by Donald MacKenzie

Nagatoro Funadama Festival for the Dead

Naked Festivals (hadaka matsuri　裸祭り)

Namazu as yonaoshi deity committing ritual suicide in sacrifice for the people

Namazu symbol

Namazu-e: Earthquake catfish prints Highly recommended! 40 beautiful namazu catfish-themed prints featured.

Namazu: The Earthshaker

Namazu: The Monster Catfish Underneath Japan According to legend, Namazu is said to live in the mud underneath the islands that compose Japan. Namazu is restrained by the Shinto god Kashima, who keeps a stone on top of him.

NASA Photo: Huge snake in the sky

Neo Assyrian elements in Xinjiang

Nihon no Bijutsu 240: Shiteno Zo Images of Four Guardian Divinities] 日本の美術 240: 四天王像 [Nihon no Bijutsu 240 (May 1986):

Nine Emperor Gods Festival in Malaysia The festival celebrations have many elements that are identical to many Japanese festivals.

Niu-Kawakami; Takaokami-no-kami, Mitsuhahime-no-kami, Kuraokami-no-kami -these kami have all been worshiped as rain gods – rain gods of Japan Mikumari (running water/river water gods)

Niukawakami_Shrine a.k.a. Nibukawakami Jinja

NOMADS OF THE EURASIAN STEPPES IN THE EARLY IRON AGE

Notes : The Ket people (yDNA Q and C3) By Tom Rivers

Notes on hellenism in the Iranian East (Hellenic Culture in the East: Evidence for Greekness?) Iran & the Caucasus

Notes: History of the Gurjar/Gujjar Tribe

Notes: The evil eye Akin to the concept of "Jashi" in Japanese, jinx or the evil eye (cognate drishti in kannada.)

Notes: The origin and vanquishing of Chinese water demons by the Goddess of Mercy

Notes: The Origin of the Baltic-Finns from the Physical Anthropological Point of View (North European Scandinavians Origins)

Nyoibo

Nyoirin Kannon

O-miki, Miki-no-kami and kushi-no-kami, god of rice wine / sake Encyclopedia of Shinto: miki has been considered indispensable to kami worship from the age of myth until the present. It is believed that by drinking miki together with the kami to whom it is offered the celebrants experience a non-everyday state of mind

Occultic Symbolism Some useful information and obscure facts

Okinawa rosetta stone (Morien Institute)

On record: What happened to the relics of Buddha? p. 336-345 The Life Or Legend of Gaudama the Buddha of the Burmese 1866 By Right Reverend P. Bigandet

ON SUPREME SKY GOD FROM THE ASPECT OF RELIGIOUS HISTORY AND IN PREHISTORIC ESTONIAN MATERIAL by Tarmo Kulma Discussion of the Baltic archetype of the supreme being resides in heaven or is the heaven, an omnipotent creator, who is often assigned the function of thunder, is called either Father or Grandfather, is sacrificed the primal offering

Onisube and Usokae shinji (bullfinch exchange rite) The festival called onisube, famous for protection from fire, is observed after the bullfinch festival. Two groups of nearly one hundred people each are divided into the "demon guards" and the "smoke handlers." The latter light a huge mound of fresh pine

Origin of Buffalo sacrifices and of horned deities

Origin of the Aryan in India and Their Migration to Ancient Japan| 長崎大学経済学部 東南アジア研究所 / The Research Institute of Southeast Asia, Faculty of Economics, Nagasaki University The British German theory of Aryan invasion of India at about 1500BC is under question. New archaeological excavations in both Russia and Japan emphasized that Aryan possibly started their journey 10000BC towards Russia and Europe and to Japan. This paper

Origins of Nihonto (the Japanese sword)

Otafuku and Uzume (Green Shinto)

Out of Khazaria—Evidence for "Jewish Genome" Lacking By Danielle Venton

Ouwehand: Namazu-e and their themes Asian Folklore Studies, 1965 Nanzan University Vol 24, No. 1 1965 An interpretative approach to some aspects of Japanese folk religion

p. 97 of "Shadows in the Desert: Ancient Persia at War" on the origin and spread of the Simurgh motif

Pacing the Big Dipper Tao info.org

Pagan connections 2) Sacred Trees (by Green Shinto)

Pagan wolf-god Lupercus and Valenine's Day

Pagel on Deep Shared Ancestry of languages across Eurasia "Ultraconserved words point to deep language ancestry across Eurasia"

Pair of Golden fish or Twin Kissing Fish Symbolism

Paleolithic Contingent in Modern Japanese

Pangu was born from a cosmic egg Handbook of Chinese Mythology Lihui Yang and Deming An, with Jessica Anderson Turner

Paper about the mystery rituals, religious beliefs (Vinaya, Esoteric Buddhism, Mikkyo, Tachikawa ryu, Taoist and yin-yang practitioners, etc.) of the medieval Kamakura-Muromachi periods

Parthian wresting: The history of Varzesh-e Bastani in Persia or Ancient Iran can be traced back to the Parthian Empire of Iran (132 BC – 226 AD).

Persian Arms

Persian dragon prototypes show connection between Indo-European, Sumerian-Semitic and Indo-Iranic-Aryan type dragons and dragon-slayers

Phallic symbols of the Honen Matsuri Fertility Festival (Green Shinto)

Pilgrimage and space About the complex notion of circumambulations, based on studies of the circuits of northern Himalayas, Kathmandu Valley and Varanasi

Planet Catfish: Catfish of the month 2005

Plants, trees and fruits in Greece and their symbolism in mythology

Poisonous Mushrooms

Pre-Islamic Turk belief in arrow-penetration divine conception (similar to Japanese and Korean mythology)

Pre-Mauryan "Rattle-Mirrors" with Artistic Designs from Scythian Burial Mounds of the Altai Region in the Light of Sanskrit Sources by Yaroslav V. Vassilkov The "rattle-mirrors" excavated from the Urals and Altai burial mounds, emblems of Shining Maidens of Scythian or Indo-European origin- usually buried along with beads, earrings, arrows or other weapons daggers and perhaps gold hat, belt and vase

Prehistoric Textiles: The Development of Cloth in the Neolithic and Bronze Ages with Special Reference to the Aegean. By E. J. W. Barber

Project U-e-peker Project U-e-peker is a team of people from a variety of nations and professions who are working to make Ainu folktales available in English.

Proto-Indo-European Mythology

Purusha is one of the early creation myths of India Related in the Rigveda, India's oldest text, Purusha is the primal man from whose body the universe was created. He was both sacrificer and victim, and his rite was the imagined prototype for later Vedic and Hindu sacrifices.

Purusha, the Universal Cosmic Male(Iswara), and Prakiti (Iswani), Mother Nature

Pyramid of Qufu (Emperor ShaoHao) Legend says that his mother, a weaver goddess, was a beautiful fairy named Huange who fell in love with the planet Venus while drifting on the Milky Way. The two enjoyed many intimate nights together on her raft and they created a son. She soon gave birth

Pyramids of China

Q1a1a1 (M120) haplogroup observed in Mongolia, Japan and India Found in ashina

Q1a1a1 (M120) haplogroup observed in Mongolia, Japan and India Trait of Ashina tribes and Ashina-descended lineages

Qiangic beliefs in animism, white stone, duanggong shamanism

Qiangmu – Tibetan sorcery

Qingyuan dialect – the sound of ancient Chinese and Japanese language

Queen of Heaven (Chinese folktale)

Rajputs in India

Ramat newa Kamuy CiNii 論文 text is devoted to the analysis of ramat and kamuy which are the key words/basic concepts of Ainu religion and Ainu traditional life

Religion and health in the etymology of sake By JOHN GAUNTNER Matsuosama, the main sake-brewing deity has shrines dedicated to him inside Japanese breweries. A Shinto ritual called O-miki is performed by a priest who sips sakfrom a white porcelain cup at the altar. It is believed that he is taking a bit of the god-f

Religion in carthage (Wikipedia) Exploring the Punic connection. Cippi and stelae of limestone are characteristic monuments of Punic art and religion, and are found throughout the western Phoenician world in unbroken continuity, with a

focus on the keyhole/ankh steles=Tanit

Religion, myth and folklore in the world's epics P. 506-508 gourd and ancestral worship, the deluge and deliverance

Resource on Geto-Dacians and the cult of Zalmoxis

Rissyakuji; a rocky cavern temple at Yamadera山寺立石寺の岩窟 in Yamagata Prefure

Rites and Festivals / Individual Shrine Observances

Rituals at Akakura Mountain Shrine

Rock-cut temples and other shrines of Mahabalipuram (World Heritage)

Role of sacred plants in religion and healthcare... Fragrance of cedar wood repels snakes and scorpions while cedar oil was used in aromatherapy

Roles of the Northern Goddess Different faces of the Northern European goddesses, of particular interest are Epona and the Scottish and German-Austrian Weaver and spinning goddess who lives in the roots of the tree (earth fertility, Underworld associations) – parallel for Amaterasu al

Romance of Old Japan (The Kojiki myths in translation)

Ryujin's Underwater Palace?

Ryuzo-ji, a temple was founded in 698 by En no Gyoja, is one of the 18 Fudo pilgrim temples of Yamaguchi prefecture.

Sacred Arts of Tibet On Tibetan culture, emergence of Buddhism in Tibet and the importance of mountain gods in bon religion

Sacred Cedar: The Cultural and Archaeological Significance of Culturally Modified Trees

Sacred hares and moon-gazing hares (Celtic)

Sacred oak of Dodona, Epirus Associated with the legends of Zeus and King Phyrrus

Sacred Places of Japan From anthropologist/wanderer Martin Gray, photos and commentary on architectural and natural wonders of Japan

Sacred rock at Sumiyoshi shrine, Nagano

Sacred Texts Myths and Folklore

Sacred Texts Myths and Folklore

Sacred Texts World Religions

Sacred water and holy wells (Green Shinto)

Sai no Kawara and Sanzu River

Sai 塞 The Saka People or Soghdians

Saicho's monastic reforms

Saka

Saka and Scythians

Saka Kings: Horse sacrifice and funerary practices "Achaemenid and Seleukid Royal Funerary Practices and Middle Iranian Kingship" by Matthew P. Canepa

Sakaki (by Green Shinto)

Sakaki (The World Kigo Database)

Sakaki: Sacred Tree of Shinto In Shinto ceremonies holy streamers called gohei are hung on holy straw ropes or branches of the holy sakaki tree to invoke the presence of the kami. Gohei are also know as Oho-nusa or "great offerings" and are still in use on important occasions.

Sakaki: Sacred Tree of Shinto by Kristin Wehner

Sake in Japanese legends and culture Kagami-biraki – the breaking open of a barrel of sake at Shinto blessings and celebrations, along with the cutting up of kagami-mochi – is a means of beseeching the gods to grant good health and fortune at junctures in time, such as the New Year or the st

Salas and Scythians The best resource in the Sakas on the Internet

Sanninu Terace, Gunkan Rock and Tachigami Rock

Sanxingdui's amazing bronze artefacts

Scandalizing the goddess at Kodungalur The Cock Festival (or Minam Bharani Festival) at Sri Kurumba Kavu in central Kerala is known for the raucous, erotic rituals. Thousands of devotees take part annually in the singing of highly explicit sexual songs and in the ceremonial pollution of the

Scholia Reviews ns 14 (2005) 19 of Ranajit Pal's "Non-Jonesian Indology and Alexande"

Scripture of the Hidden Talisman Tang dynasty Chu Suilang's (596–658) calligraphy is a work describing the workings of the cosmos as revealed to the legendary Shi Huangdi.

Scythian word resource

Scythians of the Bible explicated p. 123~

Scythic origin of the Rajput race

SEASONAL FEASTS AND FESTIVALS. By E. O. James. Thames and Hudson. 1961

see p. 2 on distribution of Sakaki eurya japonica. Thunb. shrub-trees – Taiwan, China, Japan (Honshu, Kyushu, Shikoku, Ryukyu/Okinawa islands)

Seeds for the Soul: East/West Diffusion of Domesticated Grains along the Inner Asian Mountain Corridor mountain corridor south of the Caspian Sea, lands that would later be part of the Silk Road was the main conduit for cultural exchange between east and west, with Begash and Xiaohe having the earliest presence of wheat in the steppe in a ritual funerary c

Seolmundae Halmang: The Goddess of Jeju by Ko Hye Kyeong Creation myth of Jeju Island

Serpent In The Sky – Biblioteca Pléyades Book by John Anthony West

Serpents of Austronesia

Setsubun Festival Rituals & Events

Seven Lucky Gods – origins

Seven Pagodas of Mahabalipuram . Mahabalipuram's Shore Temple, built in the 8th c. CE, stands at the shore of the Bay of Bengal.

Sha Gojo or Sha Wujing

Shamanic shades of the Miare sai of Kamigamo Shrine

Shamanism: A Reader

She hides in plain sight The key to understanding the role of the goddess of all the mystery religions throughout the ancient age to the teachings of the Gnostics.

She(社), the Chinese God of the Earth, and Huo(火) refers to fire ancestors-the Chinese equivalent of Vulcan, which can drive away evil spirits.

Shingon Koyasan's deities, bodhisattvas and luminous kings

Shinto Shrines of Japan – The Blog Guide

Shinto: At the Fountainhead of Japan

Shirongo-san or Shirongo Matsuri – an Ama diver festival A 700 year-old festival: Shirongo Matsuri. Also known as Shirongo-san, this festival is dedicated to Shirohige Daimiyoujin – 'white-beard great god' – the guardian of Suga Shima, Toba Bay

Shiva to Shankara: Decoding the Phallic Symbol

Shorenji and Kukai Priest Kukai, according to legend ,performed Goma (homa in Sanskrit) rituals (burning cedar sticks for invocation) in a temple in Kamakura to exorcise evil spirits. and built Shorenji temple on the spot when beautiful and blue lotus flower appeared in a n

Shotoku : Ethnicity, Ritual, and Violence in the Japanese Buddhist Tradition By Michael I Como

Shotoku Taishi and Daruma The legend of how Shotoku Taishi met the dying beggar (by the Daruma Museum)

Shrines and temples of Japan

SHU GEN DO Shugendô is knowledge obtained on the path (dô), resulting from ascetic practices (shu) of divine natural powers (gen). Shugendô is all of the practices and rules which are advisable to follow to reach this result, and the shugenjas or yamabushi are fo

Shugendo (Daruma Archives) Shugendo is a crucible whose place is important in the development of Japan. Making the connection between traditions of hunters-gatherers wandering, those which go in the world of the spirits, and the sedentary farmers who cannot penetrate there. It was

Shugendo and the Yoshino-Kumano pilgrimage

Shugendo, En-no-Gyoja and Ryusenji

Shuri castle, Okinawa's 15th c. Remains of the Ryukyu kingdom (UNESCO World Heritage site)

Shuri-jo

Shōtoku: Ethnicity, Ritual, and Violence in the Japanese Buddhist Tradition

Silk, Spice, Blood and Steel – Silk Road

Similarities between Ainu spiral art and other motif and that of Gilyak-Amur tribes pp. 71-73 The Decorative Art of the Amur Tribes , Laufer

Simorghian Culture and Mithraism in East Asia

Sintashta Culture and Some Questions of Indo-European Origins by S.A. Grigoryev

Sirius, Star of the Magi

Sky Serpents On the existence and sightings of flying or gliding snakes. The largest documented snakes are reticulated pythons make their home in Southeast Asian jungle

Sky serpents

Snake, turtle and sword: Ancient Chinese Constellations Identified by Stefan Maeda Paper describes the astronomical orientation and worldview of Chinese, Korean and Japanese civiizations ... the images on a 6th century charm coin being the key to decrypting and decoding the meaning of the Kofun tomb mural icons of genbu, etc.

Snakes on head-dress depictions on ancient Bactrian and Iranian coinage

Snakes, Egypt, Magic & Women @Women in the Aegean | Minoan Snake Goddess by Christopher L. C. E. Witcombe It is clear that the Minoans borrowed much their culture and various cult practices from Egypt. Numerous Egyptian objects of one kind or another were found by Evans at Knossos. The most spectacular discovery was the lower part of diorite statue of a seate

Sogdians in China

Sons of God, and Daughters of Man

Sons of God, and Daughters of Man

Specimens of Ainu Folk-lore by John Batchelor These folktales were originally published in the Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan in three installments. The printed original is in parallel columns with the Ainu alongside Batchelor's English translations, and these Ainu versions are still co

Stairway to heaven The idea of a stairway,ladder, rope, axis-mundi-tree, vine* etc. leading to heaven/moon/polestar... is one which occurs a lot in stories from all around the world.

Status, Symbolism and Spirit of the Mayan Ear Flare

Sumomo Matsuri special offerings (shinsen) of plums and rice with chestnuts (kurimeshi) are offered to the kami. Eating the plums on the day of the festival is believed to exorcise evil spirits and prevent summer maladies

Sun Lore of All Ages Book by William Tyler Olcott, [1914], at sacred-texts.com

Susano-O no Mikoto (and the Orochi Dragon) By by Kimberley Winkelmann

Swan maiden of the Ural-batur legend

Swan Maidens by D. L. Ashliman

Swan Maidens in the Ural-batyr story

Symbol and image in celtic religious art, by Miranda Green

Symbol of the swastika and its 12,000-year-old history

Symbolism and Iconography of the Serpent

Symbolism of the Cedar

Symbolism of the Vajra (Tantric Buddhist Iconography)

Synopsis of Zhou | The Northern Frontier in Pre-Imperial China (1,500–221 BC) Xiongnu, Saka cultures, etc...

Ta'asobi Festival Rice planting festivals. Centered upon shrines in the Kinki, Tōkai, Izumo, Kita Kyūshū, Minami Kyūshū and the Wakasa regions

Ta-no-kami (god of the rice fields) by Kevin Short

Takayama spring festival

Tale of the Bamboo Cutter

Tales Concerning the Origin of Grains in the Insular Areas of Eastern and Southeastern Asia By Toichi Mabuchi

Tametomo and the Island of Demons (Hachijojima and/Ryukyu Islands)

TANABATA LINKS

Tanabata Star Festival (Through the Sapphire Blog) About the Tanabata Festival tradition including a photo of the Orihime Shrine

Tantric Buddhism in East Asia by Richard Karl Payne

Tanuki Tales from Wild in Japan

Taoism in Japan (a bibliography)

Tara: The Worship of MA Kuan Yin Has NOT Developed From the Separate Worship of Lokeshvara

Taurus and the Pleiades The Pleiades and Taurus are among the first stars positively identified in astronomical literature, with references as early as the 3rd millennium BC and had a central astronomical function for ancient maritimers

Temujin, his story and how he organized his army of "tens"

Tendosha Matsuri (ha'atsu uma rite) A special offering to the “inauspicious horse” a taboo area, called Tendōchi, exists on Tsushima Island. T

Tengri cosmic worldview and rituals

Tengu no kakuremino (Japan Folklore)

Tenkawa

Teppo matsuri Procession of sacred horses to the shrine in this hunting ritual

The Age of the Gods [2] Susano-o no Mikoto His Swift-Impetuous-Male-Augustness on the spot changed Kushinada-hime into a many-toothed close-comb which he stuck in the august knot of his hair. Then he made Ashi-nadzuchi and Te-nadzuchi to brew eight-fold sake, to make eight cupboards, in each of th

The Ainu and Their Culture: A Critical Twenty-First Century Assessment by Chisato ("Kitty") O. Dubreuil

THE AINU BEAR SACRIFICE Mircea Eliade “From Primitives to Zen”: THE AINU BEAR SACRIFICE

The Altaic Creation Myth

The Ambrosial Rocks (of Phoenician Tyre) of Herculeon / Temple of Heracles

The Ancient Iranian (Archaemenid/Parthian) Army

The Animal in Far Eastern Art and Especially in the Art of the Japanese by T. Volker Divine horses, sacred white horse, straw horse effigies offerings to Koshin (monkey god of the Roads) ...

The Aynu (Ainu) Fable

The belief in Myoken, the deified Polar Star and Big Dipper

The Beltane Festival The Beltane Festival is the Bull Festival; the celebration of the Dawning of the Age of Taurus! The words “Bel”, “Baal” and “Lord” are interchangeable. Indeed the words “Bel”, “Baal”, “Bull” and “Lord” are interchangeable. The Lord Baal, the Lord Bel and

The Big Dipper: Origins & Function in Taoism, 9 Steps of Yu

The birth of Inanna/ Ishtar in Ancient Sumeria

The Black Road To The Sacred Tree by Robertino Solàrion A Mayan creation story says the world was formed when the Milky Way, which they called The World Tree, was raised into the sky. The Great Celestial Bird landed in its branches. This bird may be represented by Cassiopeia, which looks like a bird’s outstret

The Cambridge History of Early Inner Asia, Volume 1 edited by Denis Sinor Important aspects of cultures from Inner Asia, Yenissei Altai Baikal areas – influences upon Japanese culture

The Celestial Ship Of The North by Miss E. Valentia Straiton

The Central Asian element in Turks (Dienekes' Anthropology Blog) Anatolian Turks are a simple mix of a West Eurasian population element equivalent to the average of their immediate neighbors, and a Central Asian population element similar to Uzbeks in a 6:1 analogy

The Chinese Sky (Dunhuang Project)

The circular mirror: The Shinto symbol

The Civilization of the Goddess by Marija Gimbutas

The Cock Foreseeing Dawn | Cock in the Mythology and Rites of Central Asia and Kazakhstan.

The Cosmic World Tree and the Tree of Life

The Creation of Japan, an interpretation by Green Shinto

The Crescent Moon Bear from _Women Who Run With the Wolves: Myths and Stories of the Wild Woman Archetype_ by Clarissa Pinkola Estes, PhD

The Crescent Moon Bear folktale

The Cross, the Rabbi & The Skin Walker:Part 2 The author makes a host of connections between Old World and New World...we note those on the Kuroshio current’s path, fusang myth, common viral disease afflictions (evidenced by antibodies in South American Indians to HTLV1) between Japan-Inca

The Cross, the Rabbi & The Skin Walker:Part 2 A host of connections made between the Old World and New World including the Ainu-Inca virus antibodies; Kuroshio and fusang myths; Valdivia pottery; Olmec-Phoenician-Nubian-Egyptian resemblances;

The cult of Kasuga through its art

The cult of the Heavenly Twins By Rendel Harris

The cult of the Heavenly Twins By Rendel Harris

The Cult of the Serpent: An Interdisciplinary Survey Of Its Manifestations And Origins By Balaji Mundkr; A work that stands among the most important treatises on serpent iconography and symbolism ever

The Cygnus Mystery

The Cynus Mystery: Swan Knights and Swan Maidens Exploring the link between the Swan Maiden myths and celestial astronomical knowledge of the stone circles of the British Isles

The Cynus Mystery: Swan Knights and Swan Maidens Exploring the link between the Swan Maiden myths or “the cult of the swan” and celestial astronomical knowledge of the stone circles of the British Isles

The decline of the Lebanon Cedar . Enlil had forecast that once humans entered the forest, they would destroy all the trees, the ‘divine beauty’. A great battle broke out between the demigod guarding the forest and the humans. Human greed won and the forest was completely stripped of it

The Decorative Art of the Amur tribes pps 19 – 42 Shared COCK MOTIFS in the art of the Sakhalin-Gilyak tribes AND the Japanese

The Dioscuri in Christian Legends by Rendel Harris A tori-like icon was carried in conjunction with the Dioscuri twins, herald of major deities of the Greeks

The Doctrine of the "Mysterious Female" in Taoism A Transpersonalist View

The Doctrine of the "Mysterious Female" in Taoism: A Transpersonalist View by Evgueni A. Tortchinov The principal purpose of this paper is to suggest the approach of transpersonal psychology for analysis of some important aspects of the Taoist doctrine, that is, the concept of the Tao as a female universal principle and the Taoist attitude "to be like a

The Double Goddess: Women Sharing Power By Vicki Noble "It is now clear that the so-called Silk Road linked the Mediterranean with India and China for at least 4000 years, and one thing that stands out is the unique and enduring amalgam of Afro-Eurasian female shaman priestesses."

The dragon in China and Japan An examination of the mighty influence of Indian thought upon the Chinese and Japanese religion and folklore, and upon the Far-Eastern mind. Buddhism introduced a great number of Indian, not especially Buddhist, conceptions and legends, clad in a Bud dhi

The Dragon in the Lake What's the Origin of Dragons? 1 (Through the Sapphire Sky Blog) Kuzuryu Shrine and the Legend of the Nine-headed Dragon of Lake Ashi, Hakkone

The Dragon of Enoshima

The Dragon Princess Ceremony

The Dunhuang Star Atlas AD 700 discovered in the Buddhist Mogao cave complex (Mogaoku 莫高窟), just outside the Silk Road town of Dunhuang in northwest China

The Earliest Astronomers Looks at the possibility of the existence of a common body of astronomical knowledge the Paleolithic people had about the stars, constellations, solstices, etc... either locally or across the world

The Early Hungarians by Tibor Barath

The Easter Story by Denise Snodgrass

The Egyptian connection

The Eight Auspicious Symbols of Buddhism – A Study in Spiritual Evolution – by Nitin Kumar

The eight-forked serpent of Koshi By mythicalcreatureslist.com

The Epic of Gilgamesh Tablet VII Anu spoke to Enlil: 'Because they killed the Bull of Heaven and have also slain Humbaba, the one of them who pulled up the Cedar of the Mountain must die!' Enlil said:'Let Enkidu die, but Gilgamesh must not die!' Bur the Sun God of Heavel replied to vali

The Ethnic Roots of the Tatar People

The Faces of the Goddess

The Fairytale and the Anime By Dani Cavallaro

The feathery robe

The fishskin tribes of Amur Laufer, "Decorative art of the Amur Tribes"

The Folk Nature of Sacred Stones by Gary R Varner An excerpt from a recently released book, Menhirs, Dolmen and Circles of Stone .. about the many meanings of sacred or magical stones

The Full Text of Cambridge Ancient History

The giant turtle that bears the world on its back (Frontiers of Anthropology Blog)

The god of Arima Hotsprings and the three legged crow

The God-Idea of the Ancients (or Sex in Religion) By Eliza Burt Gamble Chapter III. Sun-Worship–Female and Male Energies in the Sun

The Goddess in Sumer

The Goddess of the Wind and Demi-god Okikurmi A tale from the Ainu kamuy yukar oral tradition

The Goddesses and Gods of Old Europe 3500 – 3500 BC by Marija Gimbutas

The gods grew out of water, water spirits, cosmic flow and misogi

The Gods of Eden A contemplation of the origins and connections of Biblical, Sumerian and Zoroastrian winged angels, djinns and feathered shaman of Sumeria, Anatolia and Kurdistan, Cappadocian catacombs and Catal Hayuk, the Navel of the Underworld

The Golden Bough by James Frazer Chapter 52:: Killing the Divine Animal

The Great Bear and the Cosmic Hunt

The Gupta Style of the Buddha & Its Influence in Asia

The Hata clan the remnant of the Hittites?

The Himalaya, Mongolia and Maya connection Tibet and Mongolia, were possibly the first societies to carve stones and crystals ritually into skulls by approximately 10,000 BCE. This article also touches upon the Jade Culture and the possiblity that the earliest pyramids may have been built by the M

The history behind Taimitsu rituals and talismans, and the six-syllable sutra Dharanis, Talismans, and Straw-Dolls by Benedetta Lomi

The history of Chinese astronomy Pottery now held at the Beijing Ancient Observatory and dated to the Neolithic period (over 5000 years ago) show images of the sun, and intricately carved animal shells and bones depict images of the stars as well as astronomical events such as star explo

The History of Kazakh Statehood About Botai, Androvian culture, Tamgaly burial sites, Taz,, Persian excavate sites pps 20-24 of Kazakhstan

The history of Taoism

THE HOMELAND RECLAIMED The Discovery of Writing by ÁSZLÓ BOTOS

The Horse Bodhisattava and the defender of horses

The intellectual idea behind wabi-sabi As explained by Andrew Juniper in his “wabi-sabi” book

The Introduction of the "Luminous Religion" to China By Nicholas Stanosheck

The J3.gvedic Religious System and its Central Asian and Hindukush Antecedents MICHAEL WITZEL An important treatise that examines the Rigvedic body of various deities, demi-gods, demonic powers and other forces make up a fairly coherent conceptual system. Particularly valuable for its study and close comparison/surveys of Iranian, Indo-Europea

The Japanese View on Ancestral Spirits

The Japanese Way of War

The Kangjiashimenji Petroglyphs in the Tien Shan Mountains: A Fertility Ritual Tableau by Jeannine Davis-Kimball Discussion on the petroglyph tableau in Xinjiang by the Center for the Study of Eurasian Nomads

The Kappa Legend

The Khazar sacral kingship revisited

The kingdom of Pontus in Northern Asian Minor, situated along the coast of the Black Sea, was ruled by Hellenized Iranian princes

The Kojiki: Blending Ancient History and Myth

The Korean Mermaid Of Haeundae (Busan) : Princess Hwangok

The Korean Mermaid, Princess Heo Hwang-ok, at Dongbaek Park (photo image)

The Land of Shir as the Home of Matthew's Magi Jesse Rainbow, Harvard University

The Land-Pulling Myth and Some Aspects of Historic Reality

The Lao creation myth of the Great Gourd of Heaven Parallel if not provenance for the gourd element in the Japanese creation myth

The Lapidary Sky over Japan

The Legend behind "Temujin" Yoshitsune

The Legend of Annu-naki

The Legend of En no Gyoja and Shugendo Legend of the mountain ascetic of the late 7th century. Like much about Shintō-Buddhist syncretism, his legend is riddled with folklore. He was a diviner at Mt. Katsuragi 葛城山 on the border between Nara and Osaka. Said to possess magical powers, he

The legend of Izanami and Izanagi

The Legend of Izanami and Izanagi, peaches in the underworld and why Momotaro is venerated at the Momotaro Shrine in Inuyama

The legend of Kamo-mioya Shrine (Shimo-gamo Shine) Kamo Taketsu-no-mikoto descended upon the foot of Mt. Hiei at the time of Emperor Jinmu, several minutes later than the Kamowake-ikazuchi Shrine. Tamayori-hime-no-mikoto (princess) was doing laundry in the river, an arrow came floating down the stream. Wh

The Legend of Kukai waiting for Maitreya to descend upon Mt Koya / Ascetic's Path to Paradise / Fuji as Miroku's Realm / Maitreya, the Future Buddha edited by Alan Sponberg, Helen Hardacre

The Legend of Momotaro Okayama is famous for peaches and for the legend of the Momotaro boy

The Legend of the Stag, Sons of Kus-tana (aka Nimrod) followed the horned doe into the swampy lands of Meotis

The Legend of the Stagg /The Legend of the Wonderous Hind by Fred Hámori

The Legend of the yamamba of Tefukuyama

The legend of Ukemochi, goddess of food and fertility

The legend of Yamata-no-Orochi

The legend of YMIR

The Legends of the Garden of Eden

The Lost Book of Enoch and the race of fallen angels – The story of the Nephilim

The Lost City Of Mahabalipuram. The myths speak of six temples submerged beneath the waves with the seventh temple still standing on the seashore, and of a large city so beautiful the jealous gods sent a flood that swallowed it up entirely in a single day

The Lost World of Giants A website listing the mythology of a giant race

The magi in visual images

The Masks of Noh – vengeful spirit masks e.g. the famous Hannya Noh mask, especially used for woman who have transformed into a demon, as in The Lady Aoi and The Demon of Dojoji.

The Mesopotamian Pantheon This listing of Mesopotamian deities and other mythical beings is useful for comparisons with Japanese ones

The Miao, Lolo, Mantze, etc. of Sichuan – customs described in pp. 210-126 From TheEarth and its Inhabitants vol. 6 Asia

The michibiki jizo — the guiding bodhisattva According to local legend, the soul of a person that is about to die appears before this particular jizo the day before they pass away. The mother and child are shocked to see a whole parade of spirits appear before the statue — male and female, old and

The Missing God Telipinu Myth

The moedern legend of Issie, the sea serpent

The Moon Goddess (Chang-e) Full story with details of the peaches and why Chang-e got stuck on the moon

The Mountain Home of a Warrior God Aspects of Tibetan mountain worship of Yama,, Lord of Death and image of a warrior god astride a white horse probably influenced and filtered into Japanese culture

The Myth of the Birth of the Hero, by Otto Rank

The Myth of the Heavenly Rope and the Royal Genealogy of Ancient Tibet The Mythology of Tibetan Mountain Gods: An Overview Xie Jisheng Oral Tradition, 16/2 (2001): 343-363

The Mythology of the Turkic and Mongolian peoples

The Narmer Plate, Baal and the Beltane Festival Ancient Egyptians and the Constellations: Part 15 The Narmer Plate 4468BCE Sirius carries the sandals.Examines the way myth Baal evolved from Egypt to the Phoenician coast of Syria.

The Narmer Plate, Baal and the Beltane Festival Ancient Egyptians and the Constellations: Part 15 The Narmer Plate 4468BCE Sirius carries the sandals.Examines the way myth Baal evolved from Egypt to the Phoenician coast of Syria.

The neolithic and early bronze age of the Lake Baikal Region: A review of recent research By Andrzej Weber

The North Mountain, the North Pole and the Rock of Ages The North Pole of the heavens was represented as the Mountain, the South Pole as the Pit. Early astronomers divided the heavens into three great divisions. The point called the Mountain, denominated the Highest, was the middle of the first division which

The omen of swans The Queen of Fortune

The Origin of 'Easter,' Bunnies and Eggs by Christina Georgiou The mystery of spring's renewal has been contemplated for several millennia

The Origin of the Indo-Iranians By Elena E. Kuz'mina, Elena Efimovna Kuz′mina, J. P. Mallory

The origin of the Shibuya clan and Konnoh Hachimangu shrine

The origins of Taoism

The Origins of the Mithraic Mysteries: Cosmology and Salvation in the Ancient World A book review of an important book that uncovers the origins of this secret cult later adopted by the Roman military. Roman Temples of Mithras were found from England to the Black Sea to North Africa to all the way to India.

The Origins of the World's Mythologies By Michael Witzel

The Paradigm of the Matsuri (Festival)

The Phoenician Alphabet

THE PLEIADES AS OPENINGS, THE MILKY WAY AS THE PATH OF BIRDS, AND THE GIRL ON THE MOON: CULTURAL LINKS ACROSS NORTHERN EURASIA by Yuri Berezkin These cosmic motifs…most widespread in Japan and Polynesia, are thought to have emerged in northern East Asia and dissseminated towards the West, down to the Baltics

The Polity of Yelang and the Origins of the name 'China'

The Prehistory of the Silk Road Focusing on the Nephrite-jade and Lapis Lazuli routes

The Psychedelic Cult That Thrived For Nearly 2000 Years The Eleusinian Mysteries, the longest lasting "mystery" religion of the Greco-Roman period, extending out of Mycenean traditions (approx. 1500 BC) and the Greek Dark Ages, centers on the story of Demeter, the goddess of agriculture, and her daughter Perse

The Pyramids An introduction to the lost secret of the wands of Horus by an archibishop of the Russian Orthodox Church

The Rabbit and the Turtle Korean Jataka Buddhist morality tale

The Raven and Crow of the Celts – Part I: Myth and Legend

The Raven and Crow of the Celts – Part II: Fairytales and Folklore

The reality of the Altaic language family (Dienekes Anthropology Blog) The Altaic language family — connections between geography, linguistics and genetics

The reason why the phallic symbol, the Linga is worshipped in India (and Bengal and Tibet)

The Rise of Civilization in East Asia, the Archaeology of China, Korea and Japann by Gina L. Barnes

The rising sun by Green Shinto

The role of the Hero in mythology

The role of the Shambala myth and why the Tibetan national flag looks like the Japanese militant flag

The roots of ancient spirituality and religious motifs of Persian-Pahlavan, Japanese-Sumo and Turkish-Turkpinar wrestling In Central Asia, religious men called "shamans," and "Dai"were involved with wrestling; In ancient Persia pahlavanan wrestlers were brought up in religious environments and spirituality as were Japanese Sumo Wrestling and Turkish Kirkpinar which have als

The Sacred Birds by Dee Finney

The Sacred Sphere Exploring Sacred Concepts and Cosmic Consciousness through Universal Symbolism by Paul D. Burley The Sacred Sphere explores world mythologies, cultural and religious philosophies, and ethnographic records from around the world, documenting the history of sacred symbols throughout the past two million years, and analyzing sacred geometries expressed i

The Sacred Tree in Religion and Myth by Mrs. J. H. Philpot Tree-worship – its distribution and origin; The God and the tree; Wood-demons and tree-spirits; The tree in its relation to human life; Tree as oracle; Universe-tree; Paradise; May celebrations; Christmas observances

The Sagara clan and the Aoi-Aso Shrine

The Sagara clan and the Aoi-Aso Shrine

The Saka nomenclature Who were the Sakas?

The SAKAKI TREE – From Myth to Modern Japan A look at the Sakaki tree at the centre of the Amaterasu myth and the rites of the Yomisashi Matsuri

The Sakha Universe (Yakhutian beliefs) Their DNA confirm Indian Saka origins, and their isolation is beneficial for our understanding of the earliest stratum of Saka beliefs

The Sami Tree & Puja

The Sami Tree of Rajasthan (Khejri)

The seal's skin Icelandic tale

The search for Kusanagi no tsurugi: the lost imperial sword

The search for Kusanagi, the lost imperial sword

The Shami tree for cleansing and purification rituals

The Shang of the Olmec

The Shinto Trinity Exposition on the Shinto Symbols of Three-ness and the Three Part Structure of Shinto mythology and cosmic world

The signification of Naga in Thai architectural and sculptural ornaments

The Sino-Iranica sphere of Cina, Cinastan and China

THE SINTASHTA CULTURE AND SOME QUESTIONS OF INDO-EUROPEANS ORIGINS. S.A.Grigoryev

The spiritual importance of cedar trees in First Nation communities

The story of Orpheus and Eurydice, as told by Apollonius of Rhodes, Virgil and Ovid (and retold by Edith Hamilton in Mythology)

The Story Of Orpheus Descending to the Underworld to rescue Eurydice Orpheus played and sang so mournfully that all the nymphs and gods wept and told him to travel to the Underworld and retrieve her the name Eurudike ("she whose justice extends widely") recalls cult-titles attached to Persephone. The myth may have a later

The story of stone: intertextuality, ancient Chinese stone lore, and the .stone symbolism in the Dream of the Red Chamber, Water Margin and Journey to the West by Jing Wan On the transformation of stone fertility, liminal cults into aristocratic and royal burial practices

The story of the rice cake in Tet holiday On origin of rice cake and symbolism of the shapes

THE SUN GODDESS AND THE STORM GOD AND THE STRIFE THERE WAS BETWEEN THEM From the sacred texts. Amaterasu, the Sun Goddess and Susanoo the Storm God. Detailed text

The survival of the Chinese Jews: The Jewish community in Kaifeng

The Sword and Dagger in Myth & Legend by Gary R Varner

The Symbolism of Hares and Rabbits by Terri Windling Indo-European, Celtic and Greco-Roman and Chinese associations of the hare with the moon

The Symbolism of Hares and Rabbits by Terri Windling Sometimes the messenger of the Great Goddess, symbols of the moon, fertility, rebirth, immortality or longevity, Egyptian sacrifice to the Nile

The Symbolism of the Islamic Garden

The Tale of Buluqiya who journeys across desert to subterranean kingdom where Queen Yamlika offers him the drink of juice of magic plant giving eternal youth; and he is spirited off to meet Sakhr, King of the Demon World who will never grow old and die, f Origin of idea of sake as drink of the gods Sake=Sakhr

The tale of the falcon of Koya with wings and a tail of swords

The tale of the two stupid frogs of Osaka and Kyoto

The Tao of Shinto (Green Shinto)

The Taoist Calendar A useful listing for the purposes of comparisons of Taoist practices of China vs. possibly Taoist-derived shinto and other folkloric practices of Japan

The Tengu Demons of Japan

The Three Gods: Baal, Yam and Mot Youtube video presentation exploring the polarities and symbolism in the geol-cosmology of Baal vs. Yam vs Mot triad

THE THREE MAGI, ZOROASTRIAN PILGRIMS By Hannah M.G. Shapero Ushtavaiti

The Tlingit carved crests on totem poles that were made of cedar tree

The Top 10 Intelligent Designs (or Creation Myths)

The tragic legend of Mt Kagami (aka Hirefuri-yama, the Mountain of the Last Farewell)

The Trail of the Serpent On the diffusion and universality of serpent symbolism

The transition from from animist to ancestral kami

The True History and the Religion of India By Prakashanand Saraswati Pp. 331-335 on the 'chatriya' kings and 'Shak' (Shaka) of the northern parts of India who included prescriptions of animal sacrifices and killings in sacred texts and sutra scriptures

The Tsugawa Fox Festival

The vampire cat of Nabeshima

The Vedic connection between Europe and Asia Vedic Origins of the Europeans: The Children of Danu

The Way of the Horned God: A Young Man's Guide to Modern Paganism (Dancing Rabbit)

The white serpent

The White Stag by Kate Seredy Epic saga of the birth and destiny of young Attila as well as tale of the migration and myth of the Magyar peoples written for children

The world of worldviews

The Worship of Stars in Japanese Religious Practice 1 June 2007 Special Double Issue of CULTURE AND COSMOS: A Journal of the History of Astrology and Cultural Astronomy Vol. 10 no 1 and 2, Spring/Summer and Autumn/Winter 2006. Including Meri Arichi: Seven Stars of Heaven and Seven Shrines on Earth: The Big

The Xianbei, Rouran and the Northern Dynasties

The Yuriwaka Legend The Odysseian tale of archer-extraordinaire Yuriwaka, tr. by KUDO, Masahiro

Thirty kami of the month

Thor, Norse thunder deity, warrior god of the Aesirs, Oonce understood as the "high god" of the Nordic pantheon, later displaced (in rather late pagan mythography) by the All-Father, Odin, then taking on the role of the son of Odin and giantess

Jörd (Jord, the Earth)

Three Charms and the Mountain Witch (Sanmai no ofuda) by Japan Folklore

Three Jewels (Wikipedia)

Three-legged bird flanked by dragon and phoenix depicted on mural from the Koguryo period, Korea. The three-legged bird appears in the mythologies of many cultures, including Egypt, China, Korea, and Japan

Tibetan Dzi Stone Beads About the Tibetan Garuda / Mythical Bird and significance of Tibetan Dzi beads

Tibetan ritual homa

Tibetan Tale of Two Brothers This tale suggests common origins for Hoderi and Hoori tale, and connected genetic ancestry

Tibetans in Baltistan (8th Century) Details of the Shin tribe and of Korean general Kao-hsin's exploits and of Tibetan vs. Han China imperialistic rivalries

Tiger and Dragon symbolism in folk art (in China)

Tombs of Christ by Richard Grayson Myth surrounding the tombs in Herai, Shingo, Northern Japan that are purported to be the tombs of Christ

Toroo, Serge, Barisaa, Oboo: Where heaven and earth touch Sacred shrines, ovoo/oboo, prayer trees of the Buryats bear similarity to Shinto practices

Tracing the bear myth in Northeast Asia By Juha Janhunen

Traditional Ainu music

Transformation of the Oni From the Frightening and Diabolical to the Cute and Sexy By Noriko T. Reider

Transpacific contacts? by Mike Xu

Tree of Aniconic Divinity The green tree and the pillar were simultaneous phenomena in Bronze Age Mycenaean and Minoan art, and we may perhaps draw parallelel here for sasaki and pillar rituals in ancient Japan

Tripolye hut roofing technique similar to Japanese

Tripolye: Maydanetz, Tripolye proto-city on the River of the Dead Early pottery, figurine culture and architecture of early Ukraine may have spread to prehistoric Japan

Tschagatta Swiss Carnival's horned masked devil The carnival features horned and masked devils originally worn by unmarried men. Fertility coming of age rite? Indo-European or Caucasian diffusion?

Tsukina Waguma (The Crescent Moon Bear)

Tsukiyama Shinji The ritual welcomes the kami descending from Futagamiyama Mountain, represented as an old man (okina) kami displayed at the center of the upper level of the tsukiyama.

Tsuru no ongaeshi

Tuatha Da Danaan

Turkic "Balbal" in Japan by Mark A Riddle An essay to support the theory that the unusual stone sculptures of the Rakan-ji of Houjou-chou are Turkic "balbal" associable with the presence of ethnically non-Japanese people in the Kibi/Harima area of early Japan

Turkic flags, tamga, windsock banners, flags and pennons

Turkic tamgas

U matsuri Cormorant Festival and hocho no shinji (bird release rite) a rite called hōchō no shinji (bird-release rite) is observed in which the cormorants are released back to the sea

U no matsuri Rabbit Festival Rabbit festival. A rite beginning with the first day of the rabbit in March and lasting to the next day of the rabbit thirteen days later at Aso Jinja in Ichinomiya-chō, Aso-gun, Kumamoto prefecture.

Ubaishi Rock (Old Woman Stone) Sacred rock where ascetics are expected to crawl through a tunnel under the boulder 6 times, a ritual that recalls birth/passage through 6 realms of creation (rokudo) & the Amaterasu emerging from a cave episode.

Ugra-Tara goddess in Buddhist and Hindu tantrism

Understanding misogi, furitama and chinkon By Green Shinto

Understanding the Daijosai see pp 260-261 Ritual Poetry and the Politics of Death in Early Japan By Gary L. Ebersole

Unelanuhi (Cherokee sun goddess) Like the Japanese Amaterasu sun goddess, Unelanuhi, the Cherokee sun goddess, is one of the few female sun deities found throughout the worldwide pantheon of goddesses and gods

Unfamiliar Glimpses of Japan By Lafcadio Hearn

Urashima Taro (Japan Folklore)

Use of Koh in shinto ritual (from the History of Incense) Brought to Japan by Buddhist monks, the delicate scents of Koh (Japanese incense) amused and entertained the nobles in the Imperial court during the Heian Era. Koh was used by samurai warriors during the Shogunate period in the 14th century. The practice

Ushi no Koku Mairi – Shrine Visit at the Hour of the Ox Curse rituals and death customs

Uzue shinji: Rabbit staff rite

Vala and Iwato – myth of the Hidden sun in India, Japan – Laurasian mythology

Vala and Iwato The Myth of the Hidden Sun in India, Japan, and beyond by Michael Witzel

Victimage in the Kojiki of Japan – Fragments Vol 1

Wabi-sabi Explanation of the wabi-sabi in Wikipedia's entry

Wands of Horus

Wands of Horus (2)

Warai Matsuri A parade headed by someone bearing offerings and followed by a long-nosed goblin (tengu), a demon (oni) and people doing sasaramai and lion dances (shishimai)

Warajihiki Matsuri This festival takes place on the day of Monkey towards the end of September at Namikiri Shrine (Daiō Town, Shima County, Mie Prefecture), to pray for an abundant fish catch. In this ritual, a 3-meter-long straw sandal (waraji) is dragged around the town

Warashibe Choja (Japan Folklore)

Warrior priestesses by Jeannine Davis-Kimball

Warriors of Old Japan, by Yei Theodora Ozaki; Hugh Fraser, Hugh

Watch Playlist by HowStuffWorks | What the Ancients Knew How and why did Egyptians actually build those gigantic pyramids? Why did ancient Chinese engineers design the batten sail? Learn more about history's great engineering feats

Water from the Sacred Well:

Weaving and Binding: Immigrant Gods and Female Immortals in Ancient Japan

Wenet the Swift One: The Hare Goddess of Egypt Hare Goddess of Hermopolis, the District of the Hare; Messenger to Wenet and also Thoth (deity of scribes) – Mayan hare deity invented writing

Werewolf Stories

What is wabi-wabi?

What the ancients knew – video link

What the ancients knew? Japan

What the Origins of Japan's Earthquake Catfish Reveal about Religious Geography By Gregory Smits

What the serpent pahllic symbol represents Ophiolatreia (Anonymous) Sacred Texts in the public domain

Where mountains fly: the Honji Suijaku mechanism

Who discovered the underwater ruins at Mahabalipuram? And who is claiming what?

Who was the honored shamaness of Hirabaru mound, interred with 1,000 pcs of jewellery, and outside her coffin, with bronze mirrors and swords? From "Heroic With Grace: Legendary Women of Japan" edited by Chieko Irie Mulhern

Who were Saka?

Who were the Druze? The Druze religion has its roots in Ismailism, a religio-philosophical movement which founded the Fatimid Caliphate in Egypt in the 10th c.The Druze creed had the effect of blending Islamic monotheism with Greek philosophy and Hindu influences

Who were the Tatars? Shirin Akiner's "Religious Language of a Belarusian Tatar Kitab: A Cultural Monument of Islam"

Who were the Wusuns-Usyns? Anthropology and Genetics

Why sakaki? (Green Shinto)

Windows on the world: A comparison of worldviews

Women Divers (Mermaids Are Real!) This page touches upon the possible origins of Ama Divers, their life, beliefs and religion, juxtaposed against other "mermaid" peoples of the world

WordPress.com News

World Trees, Mountains and Pillars

Wusun (Uysysn) – Grandchildren of the Crow

Xi hou, Lady of the ten suns, the three-legged crow What's the Connection to Amaterasu and the Yatagarasu?

Xi wangmu and Nugua, Chinese goddesses

Xianbei

Xinjiang Europoids in Xinjiang and from ancient Tarim Basin to Shandong

Xiongnu (Étienne de la Vaissière)

Xuancang's Record of the Western Regions

Y-chromosome biallelic haplogroups

Yakutia's Universe The Upper World-Heaven(with 9 levels), Lower World, then Earth in the middle; Universe inhabited by creators (White Lord); evil spirits; demons, besides humans

Yam=Yawu=Yam-nahra=Yaw=Yhwh the God of Moses This page examines the possble parallels or cognates of Canaanite-Phoenician deities, mythical characters, morning stars or assembly of stars in Cushite-Akkadian and Semitic-Hebrew-Biblical traditions

Yam=Yawu=Yam-nahra=Yaw=Yhwh the God of Moses This page examines the possble parallels or cognates of Canaanite-Phoenician deities, mythical characters, morning stars or assembly of stars in Cushite-Akkadian and Semitic-Hebrew-Biblical traditions

Yama no kami

Yama-uba; Yamamba; Yamanba (Mountain Crone, Dame of the Mountain) – Wikipedia

Yama/Yima/Jamsh>d, King of Paradise by Helmut Humbach

Yamabushi

YAMABUSHI, TEMPLARS OF THE ORIENT

Yamabushu, Templars of the Orient

Yamanba (山姥)

Yamanba and the cattleman

Yamaotoko (山男)

Yamata no Orochi, the Eight-headed Serpent

Yamata-no-orochi dragon and the Orochi shrine

Yao Heavens Yao tribal customs and myths including Pang hu the dragon-dog ancestor of the 12 Yao tribes

Yao peoples Yao people and their "dog spirit", legends of creation of heaven and earth, Spring Festival, the Land God Festival, the Pure Brightness Festival, "Danu" Festival and "Shuawang" Festival.

Yatagarasu shinji After reciting a prayer (norito), a paper printed with the pattern of crows with a wingspan of eight spans (yatakarasu) is offered at the altar (shinzen) of Kumano Taisha

Yi tribes fanned out of Dianchi, northeastern Yunnan(Wuman Cuan areas) and Qiongdou, Sichuan, to southern Yunnan, Guichou & Guangxi Customs such as torch festivals, cremation, animal sacrifice, slavery, pillbox bldgs are described

Yima and Noah's ark

Yoshida's Fire Festival is held annually to appease the goddess of Mt. Fuji and to keep the volcano from erupting for another year

YUKARA epos of the Ainus A Study and Translation of Kamuy-Yukara by Kiyoko Miura

Yuki Onna – Woman of the Snow The feminine spirit of snow and ice in Japanese folklore is featured in “The Mythical and Paranormal Realm” blog

Yuki-nodo, Snow yokai Blog by Yokai Grove

Yunnan history important for understanding early Japanese migratory lineages

Yunnan Legend This site has a good photo gallery, and travel details of the ethnic tribes in Yunnan, of their ways and myths.

Zalmoxis and his vision of immortality

Zoroaster and Gotama in a Non-Jonesean Framework

Zoroastrian-Aryan concepts of "tera" and "taira" and "meru"

Zurkhaneh was created during the Mithraic era Zoorkhaneh was created during the Zoroastrian religion in the 6th. Century B.C. To follow the guidelines of this religion, the Bastanikars, who traditionally were the fervent religious people, accepted the purification of spirit and the prime values of

[Susanoo no mikoto](Kojiki)(Nihongi) Other names: Take haya susanoo no mikoto(Kojiki) becomes lord of the underworld and sets various trials before the visiting Ōkuninushi.

山男の四月 Old Man of the Mountain (or Mountain Man's April's Fool)

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